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No. 1369.

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by his Son, Henry Edward Lord Holland.
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THE memoirs and anecdotic "revelations" which have been recently published prove that "historians" are necessary. The personal bias that disturbs so many of what are called "memoirs," makes us cautious in receiving the conclusions which the writers would ask their readers to accept. Historians will be imperatively required to examine evidence, weigh testimonies, and draw general conclusions. Loose anecdotes must be rejected, boldly stated but unproved "facts" must be questioned, and party prejudices must be discarded. Writers equal to such labour, and with the command of an attractive style, will be useful acquisitions to our literature. The copious catalogue of 'Letters,' 'Diaries,' 'Memoirs,' and 'Reminiscences' of the last twenty years, indicates the extent of the field which invites their literary labour.

In the mean time, until such writers appear, we can only peruse with pleasure and caution such very readable (though possibly questionable) 'Memoirs' as the gossiping volume before us. "Holland House" (let its disparagers say what they will) had a great name in its day. We need only read 'Moore's Diary' to see what rogue it enjoyed. Mr. Macaulay has given us a rose-coloured picture of its attractiveness, and applied all the resources of his power in word-painting to depict its pleasures. Possibly, the former exaggeration of its merits now causes something like a reaction. People require that the literature of "Holland House" should be as brilliant as the conversations held within its walls are reported to have been. As the "*esprit de Rambouillet*" was proverbial in Paris, so it may be thought that "Holland House" memoirs should equal, if not excel, the graces of St. Simon, and the sparkles of Horace Walpole. Perhaps it would be too much to expect that one mortal man should display the hospitality of Mæcenæ, and at the same time rival the literature of his guests. Social popularity exacts no heavier tribute than the time required to gain it, with its petty assiduities, and the trouble of its conventional deferences. Lord Holland had many pursuits; he was a practical politician, interested in "party," and expected to fulfil the obligations devolving on the representative of the family of Fox. Men who lead very pleasant lives, and who are born to place and wealth, can scarcely be expected to display the energy peculiar to those gifted "adventurers," on whose ambitious and useful toils so much unreasonable obloquy is cast.

In the nature of its contents, the second volume of Lord Holland's 'Memoirs of the Whig Party' resembles the first,—but it is more "historical" and less gossiping. It contains passages of better writing than the former volume, and it lets us more into the secrets of the Whig party. We are bound to say, that those who would disparage the "Whig party" as a mere band of families, will find some confirmation for their hostile criticism in the contents of this volume. But the question will remain for us at a future time, how far Lord Holland can be accepted as the historical expositor of the Whig party of "his time." On the completion of the work, which promises to be voluminous, we shall have better materials for estimating the authenticity of its statements.

In the mean time, we must remark that Lord Holland, in his strictures and comments, is far from favourable to those public characters who prided themselves on being independent and "unattached" Whigs. In the present volume, it is remarkable how much detraction there is from the talents of those Whigs who did not intimately belong to "our party" and "our friends." Mr. Whitbread, Mr. Grattan, Mr. Ponsonby, Mr. Windham, Lord Erskine, Mr. Curran and Mr. Sheridan, are all referred to with more or less of carping criticism and unfavourable comment. To such an extent is this carried, that "Mr. Rigby" may well rub his hands at the "revelations" of Lord Holland being more injurious to the Whigs than to the Tories. In noticing this point, we may remark that Lord Brougham, in his published character of Lord Holland, when alluding to the late Marquess of Lansdowne, writes that "his connexion with Lord Holland, and steady opposition to the war, had well nigh reconciled him with the party, although he took a line more guided by general principles, than suited the narrow-minded notions of factious men." Sentiment and party sympathy, one might suppose, would have made Lord Holland more sparing in his censure on political associates; but again we read in Lord Brougham's characterization, of both Charles Fox and Lord Holland, that "their feelings were strong, but not deep; the impressions made upon their hearts were passing, and soon effaced."—Perhaps this freedom of thinking and frankness of writing will give the 'Memoirs' additional value in the eyes of many.

One of the most curious passages in the volume relates to the unfortunate Queen Caroline of Brunswick. Our readers cannot have forgotten the extraordinary account given by Lord Malmesbury of her first introduction to the Prince of Wales, and the Prince's exclamation—"Harris! get me a glass of brandy!" Lord Holland thus recounts the condition of the Prince at the marriage ceremony:—

"Persons most intimate at Carlton House, as well as many casual but attentive observers, have always assured me that the Prince of Wales was throughout the transactions of 1795, and up to the very day of its celebration, averse to the marriage. His behaviour even at that ceremony, as well as the significant looks and whispers of some of his household and attendants, confirmed the suspicion. He confessed to the Duke of Bedford, who attended, that he had swallowed several glasses of brandy to enable him to go through the ceremony; and the Duke observed, in relating the fact, that he had taken so many, that it had nearly disqualified him from doing so: he (the Duke) could scarcely support him from falling."

To which statement is appended the following note, which we exactly copy.—

"Extract of a letter from John, Duke of Bedford, dated Woburn Abbey, August 8, 1836:—'My brother was one of the two unmarried Dukes who supported the Prince at the ceremony, and he had need of his support; for my brother told me the Prince was so drunk that he could scarcely support him from falling. He told my brother he had drunk several glasses of brandy to enable him to go through the ceremony. There is no doubt but it was a compulsory marriage.'"

An ill-starred union, indeed! We may observe, also, that the picture of Queen Caroline as drawn by Lord Malmesbury is confirmed by Lord Holland. Here is his character of the Queen, who was afterwards such an instrument in the hands of "party."—

"And yet, whatever may be thought of the treatment to which she was exposed on her arrival in England, or of the malignity, and possibly the falsehood, of some of the charges subsequently brought against her, or of the somewhat vindictive persecution

of her when Queen,—she was at best a strange woman, and a very sorry and uninteresting heroine. She had, they say, some talent, some pleasantry, some good-humour, and great spirit and courage. But she was utterly destitute of all female delicacy, and exhibited in the whole course of the transactions relating to herself very little feeling for anybody, and very little regard for honour or truth, or even for the interests of those who were devoted to her, whether the people in the aggregate, or the individuals who enthusiastically espoused her cause. She avowed her dislike of many; she scarcely concealed her contempt for all. In short, to speak plainly, if not mad, she was a very worthless woman."

Let it be observed that this passage is taken from a portion of the memoirs "transcribed and revised in 1824." At the time when the *John Bull* paper was pillorying several Whig ladies for their adherence to the Queen, how gratified it would have been if it could have known that Lord Holland, at heart, thought Her Majesty "a very worthless woman"! Of the Prince himself, in his relationship to Lady Hertford, we read the following curious particulars:—

"He was indeed at that time deeply engaged with his passion for Lady Hertford, contracted during his negotiations with her family to have Miss Seymour, their niece, under the care of Mrs. Fitzherbert. His health was reported to be bad, and his appearance confirmed the report. Those, however, who had made a study of his gallantries, recognized his usual system of love-making in these symptoms. He generally, it seems, assailed the hearts which he wished to carry by exciting their commiserations for his sufferings and their apprehensions for his health. With this view, he actually submitted to be bled two or three times in the course of a night, when there was so little necessity for it that different surgeons were introduced for the purpose, unknown to each other, lest they should object to so unusual a loss of blood."

And of Lady Hertford and Lord Yarmouth (the late Marquess of Hertford, supposed to be gazetted by Mr. Thackeray as Marquess of Steyne in 'Vanity Fair') we read the following account:—

"The influence of Lady Hertford was not immediately exerted to estrange him from his old political friends. Her character was as timid as her manners were stately, formal, and insipid. Her husband, though chagrined at the loss of his office (the Mastership of the Horse), and much connected with his nephew, Lord Castlereagh, had such an habitual respect for power, that the motive must have been very strong which would have impelled him to advise his friends to break with any persons in possession of it. When, however, Lord Yarmouth returned from his negotiation, there was a more powerful instigator of a breach with the Whigs in that family, and one who from interest as well as pique and resentment was likely to promote it. Many have attributed Lord Yarmouth's inconsiderate and ill-timed production of his powers to the most base and mercenary motives. There is not, however, a shadow of proof of his making money at the time in the funds. Men of his wealth, expectations, and understanding (for he is not deficient in the last quality, though it bears a small proportion to the others), would scarcely risk their reputation and safety in such a transaction. The credit given to such a tale shows his general character, and seems to reflect on the judgment of Mr. Fox in selecting him for a negotiation."

We must not pass over the manner in which Lord Holland alludes to the late Countess of Jersey.—

"Lady Jersey is supposed to have promoted a public and legal marriage as a security against any renewal of intimacy with Mrs. Fitzherbert; a purpose which it did not accomplish. And she may have decided his preference of a woman of indelicate manners, indifferent character, and not very inviting appearance, from a hope that disgust with a wife would secure constancy to a mistress. All well-informed persons agree that the preference of the Princess of Brunswick was the choice of Lady Jersey

and Lady Harcourt; though some suppose that a reluctance to gratify his mother by raising a second Princess of Mecklenburgh to the throne of England, was an ingredient in that determination. * * Unfavourable reports of the person, and yet more of the manners and character of the destined bride came pouring in from Germany after the articles were signed, and it was too late to recede. The latter circumstance had allayed all Lady Jersey's disposition to soften or contradict; and it is most probable that she encouraged and exaggerated such gossip and scandal. If the Prince gave any credit to them, all that he afterwards heard or suspected must have appeared a natural sequel to his bride's early life. Thus did she arrive in England, conducted by her bitterest enemy (a lady well practised in the arts of tormenting, insulting, and degrading a rival), to a husband half estranged already, with no protection but at Court, where, if the King was disposed to take part against his heir apparent, old resentments and recent disappointments rendered the Queen averse to the daughter of the Duchess of Brunswick."

Our readers are aware how puzzling it was in the 'Memoirs of Fox' to know whether we were reading the statements of Lord Holland, Lord John Russell or Mr. Allen. They will, perhaps, be surprised at learning that all the facts about Mrs. Fitzherbert's marriage, and Mr. Fox's letter to the Prince of Wales, are again printed at full length in the text of this work, just as if they had never before been given to the public. The same thing, also, is done with some of the best anecdotes relating to Mr. Pitt and Mr. Fox; and some excellent things are recorded in the Diary which have been already served up by Thomas Moore. We need not say that such careless editing detracts from the pleasure of perusal; for easy it would have been to have cancelled some of this matter twice printed, and gone on further in the Memoirs.

Turning from the details about Caroline of Brunswick, we will select some of the most interesting passages in the volume. Here we have a glimpse of the "Harry Brougham" of 1807, and his exertions at the General Election of that year. The *italics* are Lord Holland's.

"We raised a subscription the very day of the dissolution for the management of the press, and the distribution of hand-bills. The sum was small, not exceeding six hundred pounds; and more than a third was wasted before any committee of management was organized. In the meanwhile, the elections went much against us. Even the Dissenters, upon whom, in a contest with the Crown, the Whigs must always mainly rely, were alarmed at the report of our indulgences to Roman Catholics, and, from prejudice against them and a misconception of the question, joined in some places with the cry of intolerance in favour of Court and High Church candidates against the friends of religious liberty. The management of our press fell into the hands of Mr. Brougham. With that active and able man I had become acquainted through Mr. Allen in 1805. At the formation of Lord Grenville's Ministry, he had written at my suggestion a pamphlet called 'The State of the Nation.' He subsequently accompanied Lord Roslyn, and Lord St. Vincent to Lisbon. His early connexion with the Abolitionists had familiarized him with the means of circulating political papers, and given him some weight with those best qualified to co-operate in such an undertaking. His extensive knowledge and extraordinary readiness, his assiduity and habits of composition, enabled him to correct some articles, and to furnish a prodigious number himself. With partial and scanty assistance from Mr. Allen, myself, and two or three more, he in the course of ten days, filled every bookseller's shop with pamphlets, most London newspapers, and all country ones without exception with paragraphs, and supplied a large portion of the boroughs throughout the kingdom with handbills adapted to the local interests of the candidates, and all tending to enforce the principles, vindicate the conduct, elucidate the measures, or expose the adversaries of the Whigs. Our appeals were chiefly directed to the Dissenters.

We succeeded in allaying their suspicions, and reconciling them to their natural friends so well, that during the latter elections they were at least neutral, and in many instances zealous supporters of the Whig candidates. The elections, however, were on the whole unfavourable to Opposition."

We should like to have seen an explanation of "six hundred pounds for managing the press." But the matter stands without comments. Of another famous lawyer—Lord Erskine—and his conduct at the Cabinet meeting, when the Catholic claims in 1806 were before the King's Ministers, we read the following:—

"Our Chancellor, Lord Erskine, shone least upon this trying occasion. He talked much nonsense and false religion, declaimed against Papists and Mahometans, and plumed himself on having never supported the pretensions of Roman Catholics. He betrayed ignorance as well as weakness, mistook the policy of the question, confounded the state of the law, and forgot every circumstance that had attended its enactment or its amendments. When the moment of decision approached, he played with pencils and pens, took up books, and pretended even to sleep with the hope of not being committed in any resolution we might adopt. Lord Howick or myself joggled his elbow and drew his attention to the matter in discussion. He confessed afterwards with a droll simplicity impossible to describe, that he had been strangely affected by the book he had looked into. It happened to be the Life of Egerton Lord Ellesmere, who had received the seals at the same age (fifty-seven) as himself, and had held them no less than twenty-seven years! The contrast of his own prospects and the fate of his more fortunate predecessor had manifestly astonished and overwhelmed him; and no Papist ever called down the vengeance of Heaven on a heretic with more fervour or fury than Lord Erskine at that moment damned the Holy Catholic Church and all who maintained its tenets. Lord Howick was indignant at conduct so uncongenial with his own generous temper and elevated mind."

Lord Holland's account of the Irish Vice-royalty of John, Duke of Bedford, is very open to strictures. His disparaging references to Mr. Curran are at once ungenerous and unwarrantable. Lord Brougham has recorded that while Charles Fox, "like Lord John Townshend, Mr. Hare, and others of that connexion, greatly preferred the Irish, Lord Holland liked better the men of the north." Something of this prejudice may be detected in the injustice done to Grattan, Curran and Ponsonby. There is, however, one remarkable exception, which of itself is another tribute to the extraordinary talents for speaking of the Irish orator lately deceased. Lord Holland says—

"Mr. Plunkett, too, the greatest accession to Parliamentary debates that many years had produced, exerted a species of commanding eloquence and close reasoning in favour of concessions to Roman Catholics, which the House, already enriched with much genius and talent from Ireland, had never yet witnessed from that country."

The speeches of Lord Plunkett, announced for the third time (within our knowledge) for publication, will give us an opportunity of criticizing his style. But we pass on to, perhaps, the most caustic passage in the whole volume. It is very difficult to write with vivacity on an insipid theme, but Walpole himself never drew a portrait more sarcastically than the following caustic etching of Lord Sidmouth (Addington).

"I have no predilection for the individual, and still less for the species of politicians to which he belongs. He has above once been raised by plausibility, servility, and convenience, arising from a concurrence of accidents, to an eminence infinitely beyond the reach of his capacity. Like most men so circumstanced, he has incurred, and probably deserved, the imputation of duplicity. His empty and pompous manner exposed him to ridicule; and old Lord Liverpool justly observed that he was laughed out of power and place in 1803 by the

beau monde, or as that grave old politician pronounced it, the *biu mond*. The folly, however, of Lord Sidmouth was of a sort very congenial with that of large bodies of the community. Great appearance of moderation, inward admiration as well as outward observance of forms, an elaborate and earnest profession of all the commonest principles of morality and the tritest maxims of wisdom, uniformly distinguished him in public. In private, he had no vice but wine; and his jokes and stories, though frequent and numerous, were inoffensive, as well as dull. His respect for all former Ministers and past transactions was unfeigned, and the importance he attached to trifles was too well acted not to be very sincere. His very mediocrity recommended him to those (and they are not a few) who dread and dislike all superiority of talent. There were more persons than one who felt what an acquaintance of mine expressed on his (Mr. Addington's) Ministry. 'He was glad,' he said, 'that Mr. Pitt and Mr. Fox should know that in spite of their speaking and fine talents, the business of the country could be conducted in a plain way by a man who had no pretensions to genius.' Of such men Lord Sidmouth has always been an idol. He was the fairest specimen, the truest type of the genus,

The knight of the shire, who represents them all."

The portrait of Windham drawn by Lord Holland is the least favourable one we have ever seen of that eminent man.—

"Mr. Windham was a man of high spirit, great vivacity and wit, extensive knowledge both in science and literature, and an insatiable thirst for more, a taste highly cultivated, a fancy full of poetry and pleasantry, together with great acuteness and subtlety of understanding. He had likewise much candour and good temper in discussing his opinions, but none whatever in acting upon them. He had, too, an irresolution amounting to childishness, and more ingenuity than judgment in forming them. His affections for others were not strong; and his pride, easily hurt, had more particles of little vanity in its composition than were of a piece with the lofty character and bold contempt of popular applause which he affected. As a public man, he had grievous defects; as a Minister, yet more. He loved flattery, and his palate relished it in a gross form, and served up on the meanest platter. The most fulsome adulation from an inferior blinded his discernment; and he had in office the weakness of supporting his dependents almost in proportion to their want of merit, from a persuasion that their admiration and gratitude belonged more exclusively to him, when no value was set upon them by other men. This was the more unfortunate, as he was more dependent than most men in power on his subordinate agents. With all his talents, he was a bad man of business. One might have applied to him the words of Shakespeare,—

He apprehends a world of figures here,
But not the form of what he should attend.

—The following incident will illustrate my observation. Lord Henry Petty had stepped over from the Treasury to speak with him at the War Department on some occasion which in form required his concurrence. Mr. Windham, after excusing himself for having deferred it, entered into a long and lively discussion on the advantages of being early inured to office, and on the inconveniences which he felt from a want of those habits which men trained to business possess; he illustrated his reasons, and painted the idle life of opposition in such a variety of similes, and with such felicity of language and playfulness of fancy, that Lord Henry, amused and delighted as he was, was obliged to remind him that he was giving a practical instance of the justice of his remark; for the hour of business was elapsed, and the day was nearly lost in decanting on the want of assiduity and method. But whatever were his weaknesses, as a speaker he was delightful. In fancy and imagery he was equal, in taste, and above all, in delivery, he was far superior to the great god of his idolatry, Mr. Burke. If his views were somewhat less comprehensive, his arguments were closer, more subtle, and more perspicuous. His pride or noble spirit could occasionally supply something like vehemence and indignation: but real and earnest passion was not his forte. To a cold or indifferent critic he might indeed have appeared equal to Fox, to Pitt, or to

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Sheridan. In variety of illustration, in acuteness of logic, he scarcely yielded to the first; in felicity of language he approached the second; and in true wit and ingenuity, he more than rivalled the last; but in some yet greater qualifications he fell short of them all. He had not the earnestness, the fire, alas! he had not the feeling, the heart, with which Mr. Fox could rouse or warm, melt or inflame, the passions of his audience; nor had he that combination of energy and sagacity by which Pitt subdued the judgment and commanded the inclinations of Parliament. * * However, on the whole, he was one of the brightest ornaments of his time; and if more splendid than useful in public, if more capable of hatred than of love in private, and if more indulgent to his inferiors than affectionate to his equals, he never permitted such blemishes to swell into vices, nor forfeited either in political or domestic life the character of a good as well as a brilliant man."

The reader will observe some contradictions in this characterization. But they are more apparent than real. Windham was deficient in power over other men, and more capable of adorning than supporting a party. Several points, however, are omitted by Lord Holland, such as the contrast between his refined mind and the coarseness of some of his predilections. There was a mixture of the scholar and the squire in Windham not often seen.

In alluding to Lord Rosslyn (Wedderburne), Lord Holland has a passage relating to "Junius," which we leave the Franciscans to digest as they may.—

"He had himself taken great pains in forming a style, and his correspondence was remarkable for precision and purity. He abandoned his party while 'Junius' was going on, and the anonymous combatant handled him severely both as a lawyer and as a Scotchman; but till that period, and during the early appearance of the letters, he was generally reputed to be the author. Some are still [1824] half inclined to ascribe the work to him; and though every solution of the mystery must be liable to obvious objections, it is not perhaps the most improbable of the many conjectures which have of late years been entertained on the subject."

"He was Lord Temple," cries a voice from Stowe.—"He was Lord Lyttleton," says the *Quarterly Review*.—"Not improbable but that he was Lord Rosslyn," writes Lord Holland. The Franciscans think that there is no room for doubt on the subject!

Our extracts indicate the lively and agreeable contents of this interesting volume. The whole work will be useful to the general historian, though, as in the case of the letters of Walpole, its statements must be cautiously received.

A Narrative of Travels on the Amazon and Rio Negro; with an Account of the Native Tribes, and Observations on the Climate, Geology, and Natural History of the Amazon Valley. By Alfred R. Wallace. With a Map and Illustrations. Reeve & Co.

FILLED with an earnest desire of beholding with his own eyes the luxuriance of animal and vegetable life said to exist in tropical lands, this patient and laborious traveller broke through the trammels of business and the ties of home, and started in the beginning of 1848 for the River Amazon. On the morning of the 26th of May, after a short passage of twenty-nine days from Liverpool, the vessel anchored opposite the southern entrance of the Amazon; and the pilot having come on board in the afternoon, he next morning took the ship with a fair wind up the river, which for fifty miles could only be distinguished from the ocean by its calm and discoloured waters, the northern shore being invisible, while the southern was ten or twelve miles distant. Early on the 28th, the rising sun in a cloudless sky revealed to the longing eyes of the voyagers the city of Pará, surrounded by dense forests, overtopped by palms

and plantains, and appearing doubly beautiful from the presence in a state of nature of those luxuriant tropical productions so often admired at home in the conservatories of Kew and Chatsworth. The canoes passing to and fro with their motley crews of Negroes and Indians, and the vultures soaring overhead or walking lazily about the beach, served to occupy attention until the custom-house officers arrived, inspected, and permitted them to go on shore. The Portuguese, previous to the independence of Brazil, being masters of the country, not only forbade commerce to foreigners, but also spread abroad reports that the Amazon, owing to numerous falls and other obstacles, was dangerous for navigation. Later voyages, however, proved not only the falsehood of these reports, but also the facility of navigating this greatest artery of the continent, and disclosed to commercial men the real channel through which the immense natural resources of Brazil and the neighbouring countries might be most readily exchanged for the manufactures of Europe. The Government of the United States appears ready to take the lead; and early in 1851 Lieut. Hendon set out from Lima to explore the Amazon from the distant sources of the Marañon, in Lake Lauricocha, to its entrance into the Atlantic. His mission was to explore the valley of the Amazon, to sound its streams, and to report as to their navigability,—to examine its fields, its forests, and the capabilities of its rivers, active or dormant, for trade and commerce with the States of Christendom,—and to make known to the spirit and enterprise of the age the resources which there lie concealed, awaiting but the touch of civilization and the breath of the steam-engine. Though scarcely sixty miles from the Pacific, the party had already crossed the dividing ridge which separates the waters of the Pacific from those flowing into the Atlantic, bound on their way to meet the river of the Great Republic, and to unite for all practical purposes of commerce and navigation the mouths of the Amazon and Mississippi; yet from the head waters of the one stream to those of the other, the distance to be traversed is not less than ten thousand miles. Planned and arranged with their usual judgment and sagacity, the American Expedition consisted of but a small and select party; for had it been on a larger scale it must have broken down with its own weight.

This has been too often the case in our own experience, and wherever large and costly Expeditions have been sent out by Government, failure has been the rule and not the exception, while the modest and untrammelled explorations of private individuals, in some few cases assisted by a public grant, but not impeded by Government instructions, have often been crowned with success. Most of the Government Arctic Expeditions, from that of Sir John Franklin to the present day, have been failures, when loss of life and expenditure have been taken into account; while Rae, with but scanty means, all but proved the existence of the North-west Passage, and Inglefield, in a *four months' trip*, penetrated further to the north than had ever before been done in that direction. The losses incurred by most of the great Expeditions sent by Government to explore Africa, whether up the Congo or the Niger, are in the recollection of all; as are also the successes of Mungo Park, of Lander, of Livingston, of Os- well and of Galton. Thus likewise in Australia, the expedition under Grey and Lushington, originating with a private society, which only asked for one thousand pounds wherewith to commence operations, was taken out of the hands of the originators, and sent out under the auspices of Government. The failure of this unlucky ex-

ploration is well known; but it is not equally understood that the failure was accompanied, perhaps caused, by an outlay of not less than eleven thousand pounds of public money.

The work before us may be quoted in proof of the preceding remarks. Mr. Wallace, unaided by a grant from Government, proceeded to the unhealthy alluviums of South America, proposing to cover his expenses by the sale of his collections in natural history,—and he informs us that he has succeeded in doing so. During several years, he coolly encountered and overcame all difficulties; but the great geographical achievement of his exploration was the ascent of the Rio Negro from its junction with the Amazon, and the subsequent ascent of the Uaupés,—a rapid tributary of the former. On the Amazon itself he encountered the "piroróco" which he describes as follows:—

"We had gone in shore at a sugar estate to wait for the tide, when the agent told us we had better put out further into the stream, as the piroróco beat there. Though thinking he only wished to frighten us, we judged it prudent to do as he advised; and while we were expecting the tide to turn, a great wave came suddenly rushing along, and breaking on the place where our canoe had been at first moored. The wave having passed, the water was as quiet as before, but flowing up with great rapidity. As we proceeded down the river, we saw everywhere signs of its devastations in the uprooted trees which lined the shores all along, and the high mud-banks where the earth had been washed away. In winter, when the spring-tides are highest, the 'piroróco' breaks with terrific force, and often sinks and dashes to pieces boats left incautiously in too shallow water. The ordinary explanations given of this phenomenon are evidently incorrect. Here there is no meeting of salt and fresh water, neither is the stream remarkably narrowed where it commences. I collected all the information I could respecting the depth of the river, and the shoals that occur in it. Where the bore first appears, there is a shoal across the river, and below that, the stream is somewhat contracted. The tide flows up past Pará with great velocity, and entering the Guamá river comes to the narrow part of the channel. Here the body of tidal water will be deeper and flow faster, and coming suddenly on to the shoal will form a wave, in the same manner that in a swift brook a large stone at the bottom will cause an undulation, while a slow-flowing stream will keep its smooth surface. This wave will be of great size, and, as there is a large body of water in motion, will be propagated onwards unbroken. Wherever there are shallows, either in the bed or on the margin of the river, it will break, or as it passes over slight shoals will be increased, and, as the river narrows, will go on with greater rapidity. When the tides are low, they rise less rapidly, and at the commencement a much less body of water is put in motion: the depth of the moving water is less, and does not come in contact with the bottom in passing over the shoal, and so no wave is formed. It is only when the body of water in motion, as the tide first flows in, is of sufficient depth, that it comes in contact with the shoal, and is, as it were, lifted up by it, forming a great rolling wave. * * It appears therefore that there must exist some peculiar formation of the bottom, and not merely a narrowing and widening in a tidal river to produce a bore, otherwise it would occur much more frequently than it does. In the Mojó and Acará the same phenomenon is said to take place; and, as these rivers all run parallel to each other, it is probable that the same bed of rock running across produces a somewhat similar shoal in all of them. It may also easily be seen why there is only one wave, not a succession of them; for, when the first wave has passed, the water has risen so much that the stream now flows clear over the shoal, and is therefore not affected by it."

Arrived at the village of Montalegre, a letter of introduction to Senhor Nunez soon procured Mr. Wallace and his companions an empty house, consisting of two parlours, several small sleeping rooms, a large verandah and a closed yard behind; but after sunset the mosquitoes

poured on them in such swarms as to render necessary a resort to the usual protection of the locality—and after a few days' residence, Mr. Wallace says,—

"We found them more tormenting than ever, rendering it quite impossible for us to sit down to read or write after sunset. The people here all use cow-dung burnt at their doors to keep away the 'praga,' or plague, as they very truly call them, it being the only thing that has any effect. Having now got an Indian to cook for us, we every afternoon sent him to gather a basket of this necessary article, and just before sunset we lighted an old earthen pan full of it at our bedroom door, in the verandah, so as to get as much smoke as possible, by means of which we could, by walking about, pass an hour pretty comfortably. In the evening every house and cottage has its pan of burning dung, which gives rather an agreeable odour; and as there are plenty of cows and cattle about, this necessary of life is always to be procured."

This interesting book is rendered doubly valuable by the sound notices which it contains of the physical geography, geology, zoology, climatology, vegetation and aborigines of the Amazon Valley, together with various vocabularies, a map and other illustrations.

Returning to England in the brig *Helen* from these shores,—the brig took fire and went down with all the traveller's hard-earned treasures, leaving him and the crew to buffet the waves of the Atlantic in leaky boats, and with scant provisions, for ten days and nights. When he was at length rescued by the ship *Jordeson*, about 200 miles from the Bermudas, Mr. Wallace, with truly characteristic coolness, tells us—

"It was now, when the danger appeared past, that I began to feel fully the greatness of my loss. With what pleasure had I looked upon every rare and curious insect I had added to my collection! How many times, when almost overcome by the ague, had I crawled into the forest and been rewarded by some unknown and beautiful species! How many places, which no European foot but my own had trodden, would have been recalled to my memory by the rare birds and insects they had furnished to my collection! How many weary days and weeks had I passed, upheld only by the fond hope of bringing home many new and beautiful forms from those wild regions; every one of which would be endeared to me by the recollections they would call up,—which should prove that I had not wasted the advantages I had enjoyed, and would give me occupation and amusement for many years to come! And now everything was gone, and I had not one specimen to illustrate the unknown lands I had trod, or to call back the recollection of the wild scenes I had beheld! But such regrets I knew were vain, and I tried to think as little as possible about what might have been, and to occupy myself with the state of things which actually existed."

After all these vicissitudes the reader will be glad to learn—as he may in another column of our journal—that Mr. Wallace, undismayed at his perils by land and sea, is about to start in H.M. brig *Frolic*, for a long pilgrimage to the Islands of the Eastern Archipelago.

Shakespeare Restored. Norwich.

A book has reached us with the above title, and the boast is rather ostentatiously repeated in black-letter on the next page—"Shakespeare Restored," as if the writer, or editor, entertained no doubt that he could give us a text of our Dramatist immaculate in its character, and free from the corruptions derived, not only from time and defective typography, but cleared of the impertinent emendations of commentators. The design is laudable, and our readers will like to see how it is carried into execution.

In the first place, we ought to mention that what is now before us seems to be put forth as a specimen: we have here only the tragedy of *Macbeth*, but we suppose that, if this portion

of the work shall be approved by the public, it will be followed by the other dramas "restored" in like manner as to text, and illustrated in like style as to notes.

There appear to be two main principles on which the editor proceeds, and both of these are, to a certain extent, novel: one is, that in many instances, the poet uses words in a double sense not hitherto discovered; the other, that in almost every instance where the old printers of the folio of 1623 have mangled prose by representing it as verse, or by dividing long lines into short ones (that is to say, by converting a ten-syllable iambic into two unequal hemistichs), they have done so in accordance with the old manuscript and with the author's intention. These principles are explained in a Preface, called "A Lamp for the Reader;" who, by the light of this lamp, is to peruse the play from which a few of the illustrations are taken. We will give an example of each, beginning with the restorer's last principle.

In *'Hamlet,'* Act II. scene 2, just before the entrance of *Rosencrantz* and *Guildestern*, there is a prose interview between the hero and *Polonius*, wherein the latter remarks—"How pregnant sometimes his replies are! A happiness that often madness hits on, which reason and sanity could not so prosperously be delivered of. I will leave him, and suddenly contrive the means of meeting between him and my daughter. My honourable lord, I will most humbly take my leave of you."

In the folio of 1623, to which the editor of the play in our hands professes to attach, in some respects, almost implicit faith, the preceding passage occurs at the bottom of the second column of a page, and although the rest stands there as prose, the single passage we have quoted, and three or four lines immediately preceding it, are cut up into disjointed lines in the following manner, obviously not because it was, or could be, so written by the poet, but because the old printer was anxious, for some mechanical reason, to stretch out his matter to the bottom of the column:—

How pregnant (sometimes) his replies are?
A happiness
That often madness hits on,
Which reason and sanity could not
So prosperously be deliver'd of.
I will leave him,
And suddenly contrive the means of meeting
Between him and my daughter.
My honourable lord, I will most humbly
Take my leave of you.

In all the editions, since the time of Rowe, which we have been able to consult, the above is inserted as plain prose, and "reason and sanity" are in favour of continuing it so; but the writer of the "Lamp" to "Shakespeare Restored" maintains not, perhaps that the poet intended the passage for verse, but that he meant by the division and sub-division of the lines to "denote the precise points of pause, together with the degree of their duration" proper to the delivery of it. According to this authority, therefore, the actor who should pronounce this sort of *aside* by *Polonius* ought to make "a point of pause" after "happiness," after "could not," after "meeting," and after "most humbly." This position is really too fantastic for sober criticism, and we only wonder that the writer of the "Lamp" stopped short of maintaining that the punctuation of the folio of 1623 is also to be strictly observed, and that the words "How pregnant (sometimes) his replies are" ought to be followed, as in the original, by a note of interrogation.

Yet, although the restorer would in every case adopt the old printer's caprice or convenience in the division of lines (for he must carry his principle to that extent or it is good for nothing), he

does not scruple, whenever it suits his purpose or his taste, to depart from the text of the folio of 1623. Thus, for "dusty death" (*'Macbeth,'* Act V. scene 5.), he would substitute "*dusky death*," without the smallest warrant, and he inserts a note of half a quarto page in length, to vindicate the change. Here, as in sundry other places, he affects to be original; he acknowledges no predecessor, and yet Warburton, more than a century ago, put in half a line the very suggestion which here fills half a page. In a previous scene (Act IV. scene 3.), the alteration of "shag-eard" to "*shag-hair'd*" can only be termed wantonness of innovation—an amendment long ago proposed, but, we believe, almost invariably rejected.

We must say a word or two on the other main principle which has governed this new editor of Shakespeare, viz., that the poet often employs words in a double sense, not hitherto discovered, but which adds to the force and beauty of the expression. In Act II. scene 1, Lady Macbeth tells her husband—

If he do bleed
I'll gild the faces of the grooms withal,
For it must seem their guilt.

Here the author of the "Lamp," finding the words "gild" and "guilt," in consecutive lines, adds the following note.—

"The double reference here made to *gild*, *gilding*, and *guilt*, *criminality*, serves to exhibit most forcibly, in the ferocious levity of the expression, the strained and sanguinary excitement of Lady Macbeth's mind, under the two-fold influence of recent drink and recent crime: I'll gild the faces of the grooms withal, for it must seem both their *gilt* and their *guilt*; that is, the *gilding* must appear to be the effect of their *guilt*."

But for our admiration of Shakespeare, and our respect for the purpose of the writer of the "Lamp," however he may fail to effect it, we should hardly know how to treat seriously a note like the preceding, which, in addition to its other peculiarities, contains the suggestion, that Lady Macbeth was obviously under the "influence of recent drink;" that is to say, was half-intoxicated, and ought properly to have made her *exit* reeling.

We will copy another illustration, not from *'Macbeth,'* but from *'Love's Labour's Lost,'* in the words of the "Lamp," before us:—

"The two-fold character of terms, which abounds in the writings of Shakespeare, may often escape the notice of a reader unprepared for its constant recurrence; as in such instances as the following:—

Their purpose is to parle, to court and dance;
And every one his *love-feat* will advance
Unto his several mistress.

The pun upon *love-feat* (*love-feet*) has relation to the *dance*; whilst the larger meaning of the sentence is, that every one will set forth or display, for *love* of his mistress, whatsoever *feat* he can perform in the execution of the above-named several accomplishments."

We do not believe that any pun was intended by the poet, and that the speculation above offered is only a new mode of reconciling us to a misprint—"love-feat" for *love-suit*.—The disguised Muscovites were to advance not their *feet*, but their *suits*, unto their several mistresses; the blunder here having been occasioned by that which has produced so many errors elsewhere—the use of the long *f*, mistaken by the early printer for the letter *j*.

We give the author of this annotated *'Macbeth'* credit for a considerable share of perverse and perverted ingenuity,—but we protest against considering this edition anything like a restoration of Shakespeare's text. Now and then he hits on a happy illustration of his own, as in the remarks he makes on "*Tarquin's ravishing strides*," instead of "*ravishing sides*" of the folio of 1623; but in general all he offers of this kind is second-

hand; and although he adds the name of Malone, Steevens, &c. to various notes, there are many others, where he is equally indebted, especially for his old quotations, although he does not acknowledge the obligation. As one proof we may refer to p. 9, where he cites a play by Rowley, which citation he obtained from Steevens, who, however, did not make the careless blunder in the date. We advert to this instance, because it is a striking illustration of the needless notes which are numerous in this specimen of "Shakespeare Restored;" it applies to the word "fantastical," first used by Banquo, and just afterwards by Macbeth, in each place with precisely the same obvious meaning. The readers of Shakespeare are not to be imagined ignorant of the commonest words and most colloquial phraseology, and when Macbeth says "Give me your favour," they do not require to be told that it is to be understood "Give me your indulgence."

As a specimen of typography, this work does credit to the city of Norwich, from which it is dated.

Lectures on Ancient Ethnography and Geography; comprising Greece and her Colonies, Epirus, Macedonia, Illyricum, Italy, Gaul, Spain, Britain, the North of Africa, &c. &c. By B. G. Niebuhr. Translated from the German edition of Dr. Isler, by Dr. Leonhard Schmitz, with Additions and Corrections from his own Manuscript Notes. 2 vols. Walton & Maberly.

EVERYTHING that Niebuhr left behind is precious. Of all the men produced by that hard-reading school which has grown up in recent years beyond the Rhine, Niebuhr is first, not alone in scholarship, in the vast extent of his familiar knowledge,—but also in grasp of mind, in critical acumen, in the power of seizing on the essential fact in any and every statement, and in the exercise of that constructive faculty, so rare and so desirable in a historian, which enables a critical investigator of ancient stories to recover and rebuild, as well as to reject and to destroy. What Niebuhr himself said of the Englishman who most nearly approached him in his vast extent of reading, Gibbon, may very truly be applied to the Danish scholar,—namely, that however many faults may be found with this great writer, and they are doubtless many in small details, the best-read men will still pause in admiration of his superior acquirements.

The "Lectures" here given to an English reading public constitute a couple of volumes of solid reading, the result of laborious thought, analysis, comparison, and research. As the title-page sets forth, the topics handled embrace a review of the people and countries—the manners, knowledge, dress, peculiarities, and passions—of a considerable portion of the ancient world. Some of the statements made will be contradicted,—many of the opinions of the lecturer will be controverted. But the one and the other will obtain a permanent place in the history of progress in this nineteenth century,—in the story, one day to be reverently studied, estimated, and written out, of those impulses and powers which exist around us as the intellectual correlates of the steam-engine and the magnetic wire. These reports of lectures—reports not seen by Niebuhr, and recovered only from the chance notes of admiring pupils—can be regarded as little more than fragments:—but fragments of such a mind as that of Niebuhr are like fragments torn from the Parthenon. They have a beauty, a proportion, and a significance of their own. Oftentimes they are more valuable, even as fragments, than the

rounded and completed structures of inferior men.

So much for Niebuhr, and for Niebuhr's share in the substance of these volumes. A word or two now as to the editor and his labours. It is quite clear, as a principle, that the editor of a posthumous work like the present has no right to mutilate the text under the pretence of correcting incidental errors or to colour the opinions deliberately formed and calmly stated by the author, whether those opinions be founded in logic or in want of logic. No principle can be more certain. On no account is the editor to supplant the author. But further than this, editorial complaisance need not go. An editor has, in fact, a double duty,—first to his author, next to his reader. To the first he owes a perfect text:—having secured this, he is also bound, so far as he is able, in his Notes, Preface, or other editorial vehicle, to supply essential omissions, to point out obvious errors, and to collect whatever new information may have come to light on the subjects treated since the original author composed his work.

This, however, is not Dr. Schmitz's view of an editor's duty. Through the activity of Geographical Societies, the renewed intercourse of nations after the long wars of Europe, the enterprises of commerce, and the devotion of scholars to whom Niebuhr himself lent the passion of inquiry,—many of the countries described by the Professor in 1827-8, truly described by the lights of then existing knowledge, have since that time been explored more carefully, and their ruins read in a more critical spirit. These researches have necessarily added much to our information—modified some of our opinions. The results of these researches might, we think, have been added by Dr. Schmitz in foot-notes to the text. By such an addition of labour, the editor would have brought down our knowledge to the latest dates,—producing a book of present interest to all readers, instead of a work chiefly interesting to scholars and antiquaries.

History of the Christian Church to the Pontificate of Gregory the Great, A.D. 590. Intended for General Readers as well as for Students in Theology. By James Craigie Robertson, M.A. Murray.

No kind of book seems more difficult to write than a good sensible abridgment. Our customary books of that class are amenable to two objections: as compilations, they are mere servile abstracts of some one leading book,—echoes of all the mistakes and prejudices of the original writer; and, as compositions, they are as spiritless and uninteresting as a blue-book or a monograph of a learned society. An historical abridgment of what is known on any large and important subject ought to be one of the most attractive as well as one of the most useful of books. But in order to its being so, the author must be—not a copyist, but an independent writer, gathering up information whence-soever it is to be obtained, and weaving it into a readable narrative—a history in little—a clear but brief development of the operation of those great principles which have stirred all hearts from age to age—excited the efforts of able men—and, through them, produced those changes in the opinions and position of mankind, the account of which is called History. Mr. Robertson is a writer of this class. Taking up the works of Tillemont, Gibbon, Milman, Beugnot, Mosheim, Neander, Schröckh, and others of the great company of noble penmen who have dealt with his important theme—comparing them with one another and with the original authorities from which they are all derived—he has sifted their diffuse and

copious statements, and given us a product, which will be found a valuable, and for many purposes even a complete, substitute for the originals.

This is higher praise than it is often in our power to bestow, but we give it advisedly. We have examined the book carefully. We have found that it has been honestly and diligently compiled; that the authorities are fairly and fully stated; that the narrative is not a transcript or abstract of previous writers, but often original, and when not so, that it is an independent condensation, clear and full of life, carefully preserving the points made by preceding writers, and stating the results of the author's own reading in the main with equal acuteness and fairness. Absolute impartiality in all cases is probably not attainable by mankind. Every man's mind is influenced by idols of one kind or other, and Mr. Robertson is certainly not beyond the power of those which are peculiar to his age or to his craft. But the instances in which such influence has operated prejudicially on his book are few. The book throughout shows fairness of judgment, and if in one or two cases a little timidity has induced the writer to waive discussion lest his words should be perverted to party purposes, perhaps those who know most of the depth and ingenuity of the *odium theologicum* will term such timidity "discretion," and esteem it no disparagement to the chivalry of the author's general character. Some of his notes in which he comments on statements of the *Edinburgh Review*, indicate a strength of prejudice in that quarter, of which, happily, there are no evidences on other subjects.

In treating such a book as this, it is difficult to bring home to our readers, by example, in what its special merit consists. Any review of its general subject is, of course, out of the question, but the vigour of its narrative may be illustrated by an example or two. These will show, on one point, how far the present author is separated from the ordinary tribe of abridgment-makers. One of the shortest of his biographical sketches is that of Symeon Stylites, which at once brings him into comparison with Gibbon. It runs thus.—

"Symeon, after having been nine years an inmate of a strict monastery, withdrew to a place about forty miles from Antioch, where he lived for ten years in a sort of narrow pen. He then built a pillar, and took up his position on the top of it, which was only about a yard in diameter. He removed successively from one pillar to another, always increasing the height, which in the last of them was forty cubits; and in this way he spent thirty-seven years. His life was compared to that of angels—offering up prayers for men from his elevation, and bringing down graces on them. His neck was loaded with an iron chain. In praying, he bent his body so that his forehead almost touched his feet; a spectator once counted twelve hundred and forty-four repetitions of this movement, and then gave over reckoning. He took only one scanty meal a-week, and fasted throughout the season of Lent. He uttered prophecies, and wrought an abundance of miracles. Symeon's fame became immense. Pilgrims from distant lands—as Spain, Gaul, and even Britain—flocked to see him. Little figures of him were during his own lifetime set up in the workshops of Rome, as charms against evil. He corresponded with bishops and emperors, and influenced the policy both of church and state. By his life and his exhortations he converted multitudes of Saracens and other nomads of the desert. Some time after he had adopted his peculiar manner of life, some neighbouring monks sent to ask why he was not content with such fashions of holiness as had sufficed for the saints of earlier days. The messenger was charged to bid him leave his pillar, and, in case of a refusal, to pull him down by force. But Symeon, on hearing the order, put forth one of his feet, as if to descend; and the messenger, as he had been instructed, acknowledged

this obedience as a proof that the Stylite's mode of life was approved by God, and desired him to continue in it. At length, the devil appeared to Symeon in the form of the Saviour, and invited him to ascend to heaven in a chariot drawn by cherubim. Symeon put out his foot to enter the chariot, when the tempter vanished, and, in punishment of his presumption, left him with an ulcer in his thigh, which for the remaining year of his life obliged him to support himself on one leg. He died in 460, at the age of seventy-two. His body was removed with great ceremony to Antioch—the inhabitants of which had requested that it might be given to them as a defence for their city, instead of the walls which they had lost."

The following account of the occupation and mode of life prescribed to the Benedictines by their rule has an interest of another kind.—

"A distinctive feature of the Benedictine system was the provision of ample occupation for the monks, especially of manual labour, which in the western monasteries had as yet been little practised. They were to rise at two o'clock; to attend eight services daily, or, if at a distance from the monastery, to observe the hours of the services; and they were to work seven hours. The whole Psalter was to be recited every week in the course of the services. Portions of time were assigned for committing psalms to memory, for the study of Scripture, and for reading Cassian's 'Conferences,' lives of saints, and other devout and edifying books. A book was to be read aloud at meals, but no conversation was to be held. At dinner there were to be two sorts of *pulmenta*, 'that they who cannot relish the one' (said Benedict) 'may eat of the other.' These *pulmenta* included grain and vegetables dressed in various ways; some authorities extend the word to eggs, fish, and even birds. A third dish, of fruit or vegetables, was to be added where such things grew. Each monk was allowed a small measure of wine; because (as Benedict remarked), although monks ought not to taste wine, it had been found impossible to enforce such a rule. A pound of bread was the usual daily allowance; but all such matters were to be arranged at the discretion of the abbot, according to the climate and the season, the age, the health, and the employment of the monks. Flesh was forbidden, except to the sick. The dress of the monks was to be coarse and plain, but variable according to circumstances. They were to sleep by ten or twenty in a room, each in a separate bed, and with their clothes on. A dean was to preside over each dormitory, and a light was to be kept burning in each. No talking was allowed after compline—the last service of the day. The monks were never to go out without permission, and, in order that there might be little necessity for leaving the monastery, it was to contain within its precincts the garden, the mill, the well, the bakehouse, and other requisite appurtenances. The occupation of every monk was to be determined by the abbot; if any one were disposed to pride himself on his skill in any art, or handicraft, he was to be forbidden to practise it. Monks were to sell the productions of their labour at a lower price than others—a regulation by which Benedict intended to guard against the appearance of covetousness, without, probably, considering how it might interfere with the fair profit of secular persons, who depended on their trades for a livelihood."

Our author's endeavour to compress as many facts as possible within the shortest compass, and to give to his narrative, however brief, the attractiveness of a pictorial character, is sufficiently illustrated by these examples.

Poems. By James Payn. Cambridge, Macmillan & Co.

This volume was kept back from among its many companions with whom brief converse was held at the close of last year, as one claiming wider space in which its voice might be heard than the generality of that large company. We do not, however, profess to introduce a deep or original poet in Mr. Payn. That he has some touches of real feeling,—some pulsations of that expressive power which has animated the giants of the earth from

the earliest to the latest times, may be true:—on the other hand, he shows too largely the skill and the sentiment of an imitator; and in his best pieces immediate reference may be made to the known models whose style he has adopted. How fast the fashions of admiration fleet we are reminded by Mr. Payn's dedication:—his volume being inscribed to Miss Mitford, whose early attempts at verse were made in close resemblance of Scott's metrical romances. Then came the orientalism and gloomy passion of Byron—then the contemplative philosophy of Wordsworth—then the rich, fantastic conceits of Shelley and Keats—each of whom had his school.—For much rhyme published in England, and a good third of the verses issued during many years in America, Mrs. Hemans was answerable.—Now the mode is, to copy Mr. Tennyson, the author of 'Festus,' or Mr. and Mrs. Browning. The last-named pair seem to have been selected as models by Mr. Payn. Of the genius of both we need not here express our judgment;—but never were these poets less fitted to serve the purpose of a neophyte, if he must prelude (as it were) after the chords and in the modulations of some elect master ere he can boldly strike forth into his own thoughts, his own imagery, his own measures.—The mysticism, the carelessness of structure, the use of colloquial artifices which mark the writings of both husband and wife, are with difficulty pardoned, in their case, by severe critics—even when relieved, as they are there, by unquestionable utterances of genius: when such faults are met second-hand, they are hardly sufferable. In Mr. Payn's case they are gratuitous; since we will show that they are not necessarily part and parcel of his verse, by quoting a passage from his 'Pygmalion'—with a landscape in the Isle of Cyprus.—

There, in time past, save surfeiting of joy,
Perpetual pleasure was without alloy,
In one still round of exquisite delight
The soft day faded into softer night,
Nor ruder radiance of the favouring sun
Than fosters ease; nor labour to be done,
Save that which, link'd with joy, amidst the vines
That clomb the hill-tops, strips the straggling lines,
Or graceful lingers where spontaneous birth
Of fruit and flower gladden'd painless earth,
To furnish forth with feast the rich man's house,
Or weave the crowning garlands for his brow,
A land with beauty stored in scent and sound,
An endless mass of wavy garden ground
Blown over from the South, whose winds above
The fragrance of the frequent orange grove
Had died with sweetness, but for streamlets clear
That, blossom-hung, went warbling unaware,
And scatter'd coolness: hid, but not unheard,
Lorn Philomela, night-companion'd bird,
Made grief more sweet than joy throughout the noon;
The rival songsters, jealous of her tune,
Hung voiceless overhead, or slowly drew
Their rainbow glories through the cloudless blue;
And, gorged with sweet, humm'd drowsily the bees,
But drones at heart, though honey chok'd their trees.

The above may neither be very high—nor very deep—nor very new—but it is natural. Not so the larger portion of the poem which it opens,—in which the author has adopted the involved style of 'Sordello' with a curious and dreamy pertinacity. Then, who that is acquainted with Mrs. Browning's poetry, will be at a loss for the model of the following verses?

"Rest and be thankful."

Why is he darkly laid 'neath the cold yew-tree shade,
When toll is paid and done?
Why doth the organ roll, and the dread death-bell toll,
When his rest is begun?
Why are our eyes so dim for that glad fate of him?
Why are our faces pale?
Wherefore this garb of ours? Why not the fair sweet flowers,
And the white virgin veil?
Though he hath lived his life, loving all, healing strife,
Voiceless his widow stands,
And his poor orphan'd one, he will have never done
Wringing those little hands!
See his friends, one and all, bearing up that black pall!
Hark, how solemn, how slow
Oh my brothers, whose guest then believe we the bless'd?
Whither then doth he go?
Or, hath he pass'd his days numb to prayer, void of praise,
Is it for us to mourn?
Be sure beyond the grave are better things to have
Than a keen glance of sorrow!

Dare we to use deceit, e'en at that dead man's feet,
That trod our self-same way,
And looking on that face that knows not its disgrace,
To wish him one more day?
Or is't a poor man gone? Most rightly is there none
To vex us with their wails,
For we all hated him, and work'd his life and limb,
And grudged him coffin nails;
Well doth the death-bell toll its least for that freed soul,
So chary of its chime,
For in this world be sure we treat the being poor
Far worse than Heav'n treats crime!
What needs one hired plume about the rich man's tomb?
Shorn of his pomp and pride,
There he lies better far where the bold earth-worms are
Than where worse reptiles glide,
Dust-licking flatterers with those smooth lies of theirs,
Women who sell their love;
Can worse lodging be found with the rot under ground
Than with such friends above?
Son of pleasure, unless 'd, thou who strov'st to make jest
Of this stern, earnest life,
For thine end, above all, let no tear be left fall,
Thou hadst the bitter strife!
They that have envied thee took that a star to be
That was a felon's brand.
As I live I half doubt if life were not let out
By thine own trembling hand!
Old and grey slave of care, hast at last totter'd here?
Let nought vex more thy mind;
Thou shalt not fare the worse for thy death-stolen purse,
And thy strong-box left behind;
But if thou couldst but hear what is said o'er thy bier,
Thy tongue would wag once more,—
"Beat me hence all these apes with their staves and their
crapes,
And hearse and horses four."
Little child, happy child, thou that hast scarcely smiled
Three sunny summers through,
These, for thee, tearful-blind, have through grief lost their
mind,
And know not that they do;
Or they would never toll bell for thy blessed soul,
Rather the rod would kiss,
Rather with thankful heart suffer thy breath depart
Knowing all thou dost miss.

Now-a-days it seems to be the fashion to get rid of another speciality in poetry besides clearness of form and choiceness of diction,—namely, to dispense with music; by writing unrhymed lyrics. The following is not the worst specimen of this Art-destroying art that we have met.—

Dropping down the river,
Down the glancing river,
Through the fleet of shallops,
Through the fairy fleet,
Underneath the bridges,
Carved stone and oaken,
Crown'd with sphere and pillar,
Linking lawn with lawn,
Sloping swards of garden,
Flowering bank to bank;
'Midst the golden noon-tide,
'Neath the stately trees,
Reaching out their laden
Arms to overshadow us;
'Midst the summer evenings,
Whilst the winds were heavy
With the blossom-odours,
Whilst the birds were singing
From their sleepless nests:
Dropping down the river,
Down the branched river,
Through the hidden outlet
Of some happy stream,
Lifting up the leafy
Canopy that o'erhung it,
Fold on fold of foliage
Not proof against the stars.

The Sonnets in Mr. Payn's volume are not good, being somewhat dry, barren, and without due balance in their versification.—There is hardly a page, in short, that is not more or less freaked and flawed by caprices and faults which Mr. Payn must discard ere he can be enrolled in the brotherhood of minstrels. Nevertheless, as may be gathered from the extracts which have been given, he may win a not dishonourable fellowship in that body should he show in some further volume that he has learned to think more of that truth and beauty in Art which are of "all time" than of the manner of any elected idol or teacher.

The Decline and Fall of the Hansa, and of the Teutonic Order, in the Baltic Region.—[Verfall und Untergang der Hansa, &c.] By Kurd von Schlözer. Berlin, Herz; London, Williams & Norgate.

In a previous work, entitled 'The Hansa and the Teutonic Order' [*Athen.* 1294], this author

has told how those remarkable bodies severally took root, and rapidly grew to a flourishing power in the Baltic regions. The present volume relates the decay and extinction—in all but name, at least,—of both. As their rise was sudden, so was their descent precipitate. At the close of the fourteenth century they were at the height of a dominion such as few kingdoms of Europe possessed at that period. The beginning of the sixteenth saw them already shaken to their foundations, narrowed in means and influence, and reduced to a defensive attitude, where so lately they had conquered and commanded. Before its close the fate of both was decided. The Teutonic Order fell earliest: in 1525, the last Grand Master in Prussia, Albert of Brandenburg, threw off his mantle, took investiture of the province from Poland as hereditary Duke,—and thenceforth acted as a zealous promoter of Lutheran doctrine. In Livonia, a part of the Order that had for some time been nearly independent of its head, struggled for its faith and its supremacy for a while in hopeless isolation; but could not long resist the forces which assailed it on all sides. In 1561 the Order was dissolved there also, and the province was annexed to the sovereignty of Poland. The real life of the body ended here:—the small minority of knights who seceded from Prussia in 1525, and kept up a nominal existence at Mergentheim and elsewhere, for two centuries later, were but the empty shadow of what had once been a substantial and energetic body.

The Hansa lingered awhile longer. As an aggregate of many separate and some distinct elements, each individual of which had a special force of its own, independent of its power as a member of the Union,—not only was the dissolution of the system less definitely marked by a single event, but also in its leading representatives, especially in Lübeck, Hamburg, and Bremen, there remained, even after the original corporate system was extinct, sufficient vital force to maintain a stable position of their own; which as it were saved the honour of the League, and preserved its name with a certain credit that subsists even to our own day. But the old Hansa, as a power, such as it had been throughout the fourteenth, and still was to a great extent in the fifteenth century, received its death-blow in the treaty with Denmark in 1536;—the war with Sweden, which Lübeck undertook singly in 1563, was her last martial enterprise;—and from that date the Union, although not expressly dissolved, and still numbering in 1603 so many as fifty cities in its League, lay in a state of mere decomposition, which could not long be concealed. In 1630, when the last Diet was held, Lübeck, Hamburg, and Bremen, seeing themselves forsaken by the rest, concluded their triple alliance,—and the old Hansa was formally interred by that transaction.

The causes and manner of this great change of fortune are here told by Herr von Schlözer in a way that entitles him to the praise deserved by his former essay,—with accuracy, with clearness, not without elegance, and, above all, with brevity. Of these causes the decisive one was the same in both instances; although the mode of its development, and of its action, was different in each, as determined by its respective character and condition. Apt for the necessities of a time of growth,—which implies change,—but representing only a first step in this inevitable process, the intensity with which its influences were stamped on their constitution, the very force which gave them prodigious effect while it lasted, made their dissolution inevitable when the advancing age became ripe for new influences. Such influences, for which they had been destined to prepare the way, thus became the instruments of their ruin:—an expe-

rience which History teaches in many places, and which old mythology perhaps may have symbolized in the fable of Saturn devoured by his own offspring.

With respect to the Teutonic Order, the omens of its fall at once appeared after the first shock to its superiority, in the war with Poland, by the fatal battle of Tannenberg, in 1410. The origin of this war, as well as its result, would in any case have been menacing to the Order. It was the first act of a new power in Poland, consolidated by the union of Lithuania under the Jagellon dynasty; which, heretofore comparatively inconsiderable and remote, now became a close and dangerous neighbour. More than this, by the conversion of Lithuania to Christianity,—which was one immediate effect of that union,—the first element of the Order's importance, as militant against Paganism, became extinct: it subsided into a merely secular power, by the loss of all further scope for its service as a religious militia. Deprived of this vocation, and constrained thenceforth to maintain itself on a basis of civil policy, the defects of its constitution in that single point of view became instantly visible. The immediate consequences of the war were less serious. Poland, indeed, consented to a peace on moderate terms.

But, however favourably all this seemed to arrange itself for the moment, it could not even then escape acute observers that the Order, since the battle of Tannenberg, had fallen into a doubtful position, which rendered the prospects of its future career ominous enough. The wound which that single day of disaster had given to the military state on the Baltic, had the effect of suddenly bringing to light breaches and flaws in its body, of which, until then, the most experienced eye might have remained unconscious. A spirit of discord, of mistrust, and of disobedience, the like of which had never been known in earlier times, had arisen in the highest as well as in the lowest strata of the population. The bond of brotherhood and unity, which for nearly two centuries had encompassed the Order, alike in its days of glory and of distress, was now discovered. The old heroism of the knights was paralyzed from the moment that a foreign conqueror had succeeded in destroying their faith in the infallibility of their long-tried weapons. Many of the brethren deserted the land immediately upon the defeat at Tannenberg,—a part took refuge in Germany; others, even, were not ashamed to seek their fortune in the hostile camp of the Polish king.

Among those who remained, conspiracies broke out in various quarters, reaching, in one instance, to the deposition of the Grand Master himself (1413).

At the same time, whilst in the palace of the Order these divisions were ever going deeper, there also grew more and more palpably evident the false position in which the knights and rulers of the country now stood towards the rest of the inhabitants;—for the old forms of the Sovereignty of the Order had survived its principle, and no longer satisfied the variously enlarged demands of a later time. While the order maintained its power unbroken, marching onwards from victory to victory, and from one conquest to another, the rigid military form of the constitution which it had imposed on the country, had been thoroughly justified by the relations then existing:—as conqueror of the soil, the knight was also entitled to rule it with unlimited power. Under the protection of his sword, traffic, agriculture, and the mechanic arts had rapidly grown to life throughout all the territories of the Order; and although its subjects were excluded from any share whatever in the administration, still the majority of the people might easily forget this civil bondage, in the sense of their security and prosperity. But now, when the structure of the Order was shaken to its centre, the lustre of its martial glory faded, and a misery never dreamed of before had burst upon the country,—this crisis revealed in a glaring light the insufficiency of the old monkish military system of the Order's government; which, although able to

give an external consistency to the state conquered by its arms, had within itself neither popular nor vital elements enough to establish a solid national connexion between the new lords of the soil and their subjects.

The active principles of decay in the Hansa may be reduced in the end to the same general expression which describes the doom of the Teutonic Order. The mercantile confederation, too, had outlived the time for which its energies were apt, and the circumstances which alone enabled its system of rigorous monopoly to create and to tyrannize over the commerce of Northern Europe. The growth of order and prosperity in adjacent regions, the consolidation of petty sovereignties into larger states, were fatal to an influence founded upon the union cemented in the midst of universal anarchy, and to exclusions that could only be endured while enterprise lay dormant elsewhere. Its political and military power had always been wielded for the benefit of its trading interests; and the same incidents in European progress which by degrees undermined the former, were more or less directly active in assailing the latter.

From the middle of the fifteenth century, the Hansa had gradually been losing more and more of its political consequence. A series of momentous changes, which in the course of that century had taken place in the political states of Europe, had also produced a revolution in the North German Town's Union, as well in outward relations as in its internal structure,—which but too plainly showed that the old might of the Hansa was waning, and could not be replaced by any newer substitute. The foundation of the new Burgundian Duchy; the extension of Poland's supremacy over Prussia; the revival of the Scandinavian Union under the sway of Christian the First; finally, the emancipation of Russia from the Mongolian yoke, and the sudden expansion of power in that kingdom,—such were the events by the combined action of which the activity and spirit of enterprise in the Hansa were paralyzed and confined, both in their own immediate district and in their factories beyond sea. While in the west the Dutch towns separated themselves from the Hanseatic body, and in the Factory at Bruges the Flemings imposed the severest exactions on the German merchants,—in the east the Prussian towns, under their new Polish sovereign, were detached from all effective co-operation in the general affairs of the Union. In Novgorod, as we have seen, the "German Hansa" had been once shut up by Ivan the Third, and never afterwards succeeded in regaining its old prosperity. In the Factory at Bergen, indeed, the Hanseatic trader still continued to enjoy all his privileges in the fullest measure far beyond the close of the fifteenth century,—for in that country the Germans had established such close and manifold connexions with the natives, that the latter would have been the chief sufferers had the Hanseatic merchants been in any way restrained there. But in other parts of his kingdom Christian the First, perhaps, for this very reason, only displayed the more hostility towards the German Trading Companies; and, at length, by dint of continual oppressions so far succeeded, that in 1479 the Hanse merchants gave up their voyage to Schonen, although at that time the herrings had once more appeared in the Sound in abundant shoals.

Altogether, the condition of Europe at this epoch required a new kind of expansion, and a more local independence of trade than the Hansa, as a special confederacy, had allowed during the bloom of its power. This federation of burghers had taught princes to covet the wealth and consideration which might be gained by commerce as well as by the sword,—and the lesson was fatal to the teachers. No less severely did the retort of their own practices fall upon them, when other bodies acquired the dominion of trade where they had hitherto reigned absolute. Their jealous and illiberal exclusion of all foreigners was now remembered, and turned against themselves, by powers that grew strong, while they were

rapidly declining. Thus the Nemesis, which runs through all the great movements of history, was strikingly apparent here. The injustice with which the Hansa, in the days of its sovereignty of the sea, had succeeded for awhile in keeping down rival enterprise, accelerated its fall and deprived it of friends at the time when these were most urgently needed. In England, Holland, Flanders, even in the inland cities of Germany itself, the same grievance had been felt; and the same result took place so soon as local enterprise was sufficiently aroused to claim its native right:—and the great blockade was exploded as rapidly as it had been formed. Its existence characterizes a stage in the history of Europe which could only last during a rude and unsettled infancy;—and it expired unpitied, in spite of manifold benefits, both of act and of example during that period, because the principle of its constitution, being stubborn, was adverse to all beneficial progress. In this respect its fate contains a lesson, the principle of which is of general and present application:—although the particular instance belongs wholly to the past.

The Works of Oliver Goldsmith. Edited by Peter Cunningham. Vol. I. Murray.

Or authors whose date is recent and whose fame is fresh, few have enjoyed the same amount of affectionate and caressing care as Oliver Goldsmith. The most gentle and humanizing of the sons of song—he who, in the words of Garrick,

Wrote like an angel and talked like poor Poll

—who threw out weaknesses, as the vine throws out tendrils, to find them cling to all surrounding objects and affections—is, and deserves to be, a universal favourite with those who read and feel. Impossible, therefore, is it for us to have one edition too many of such an author—whether it be illustrated or annotated, printed on elephant drawing-board or on the coarsest sugar-paper, and sold for pence or for pounds. Already—notwithstanding Mr. Cunningham's assurance to the contrary—we have some tolerably good editions of Goldsmith's works. We do not here refer to Mr. Corney's edition of the Poems:—one of the sample volumes of modern editorial love and care. We have in our mind's eye Mr. Prior's edition of the Miscellaneous Works,—which, with some faults of plan and with literal errors in abundance, is nevertheless, like all its author's industriously-compiled works, a monument of care and perseverance to which all coming editors of Goldsmith, Mr. Cunningham included, must of necessity be much indebted. In his list of acknowledgments for hints afforded and assistance given, we could have wished to see in the Preface of our new editor—so ample in his expression of gratitude for the loan of a book or the copy of a letter—some substantial reference to the labours of Mr. Prior:—labours to which almost every page of this volume proves that he is consciously or unconsciously indebted.

That Mr. Cunningham can be grateful when it suits his mood, a line or two from his Preface will testify.—

"I began to look about me for the editions of the several pieces published in the lifetime of their author. I had some, and those of importance, myself; the British Museum possessed a few (too few); Mr. Forster had others; but Mr. Corney had nearly all. With a liberality which the public will appreciate, both Mr. Corney and Mr. Forster allowed me to take away from their shelves such editions as I required, and thus afforded me every means and facility to make my book what an edition of a great author should, if possible, be like. This liberality I must attribute, in part, to a long friendship with both gentlemen (with Mr. Forster especially); but

the public will, I feel assured, attribute such confidence and kindness as much to their admiration of Goldsmith as to their liking for his editor."

For an editor who knows how to be thus profuse in thanks in quarters where his obligations are secondary in extent and interest, we are at some loss to invent a logic that shall be at once explanatory and satisfactory in regard to Mr. Cunningham's very obvious relation to the labours of Mr. Prior. As we write, the four-volume edition of the 'Miscellaneous Works of Oliver Goldsmith, M.B., including a variety of pieces now first collected, by James Prior, F.S.A. &c.,' lies before us, together with the first volume of the new edition. Mr. Prior's edition was published by Mr. Murray in 1837:—yet Mr. Cunningham would seem by his Preface never to have heard of it. Mr. Prior is not so much as named in Mr. Cunningham's account of his predecessors in the task of collecting and publishing the works of our admirable Humanist! What this silence on the part of the new labourer in the field may signify, we do not pretend to know,—and we shall assuredly wait with curiosity for such explanation as may be rendered in succeeding volumes. That it is not the result of ignorance is, however, in the mean time, abundantly clear. We read in the Preface—

"With respect to the notes throughout, I have only to say, that I hold myself responsible for all, although to the authorship of many I can lay no claim whatever. It was once my intention to distinguish those of previous editors by their names, but I abandoned that idea because in many cases I was unable to identify the writers; while I had myself taken some liberties, either of correction or compression, with almost every note;—I therefore resolved to adopt the notes of my predecessors, with this general caution and admission, and to let my own appear without the often-recurring ostentation of my name attached to them."

A principle of literary appropriation is here laid down, the logic and legitimacy of which we strive in vain to understand. Mr. Cunningham lets us know that he has annexed the territories of his literary neighbours and effaced the boundary lines of their estates on the plea, that he thereby avoids personal ostentation. Is not such an argument rather startling? Whither might it not lead? Are not Mr. Cunningham's views, as here set forth and illustrated, as to the right of "adoption" somewhat vague and ill defined? Admit this principle, and not only may Mr. Dyce "adopt" all previous notes on Shakespeare as his own, but some coming dramatist may assert his right to "adopt" the plays. Suppose Mr. Marston took it into his mind to adopt 'Macbeth,' and Mr. Tennyson conceived a fancy for 'L'Allegro,'—would they not, when the theory here proposed is pushed to its logical conclusion, be severally justified in erasing the names of Shakespeare and Milton from the next reprint of the play and poem and inserting their own? In order that the reader may comprehend our difficulty, we will place before him in parallel columns an illustration or two of the literal way in which Mr. Cunningham practises that which he has laid down as a theory. Here, for instance, is the note to 'The Grumbler,' as we find it in Mr. Prior's edition of 1837 and adopted in that of Mr. Cunningham in 1854:—

Prior in 1837.

"Gratitude to Quick, for his able personation of Tony Lumpkin in 'She Stoops to Conquer,' induced Goldsmith to consent to alter Sir Charles Sedley's translation of Bruce's Comedy of 'Le Grondeur' into a Farce for his benefit.

Cunningham in 1854.

"'The Grumbler' (a scene from which is here printed from the Licensor's MS. copy in the possession of John Payne Collier, Esq.) is an adaptation of Sir Charles Sedley's translation of Bruce's comedy of 'Le Grondeur,' and was played at Covent Garden Theatre on the 8th of May, 1773, for the benefit of Quick, the original Tony Lumpkin in 'She Stoops to Conquer.' It was only played

[See last paragraph.]

once, and was never printed. It answered, however, the good-natured purpose for which Goldsmith wrote it.

The following is an outline of the plot. Sourby, an ill-tempered, discontented man, is the torment of his family, neighbours, and servants. In the opening of the piece his son is on the point of being married to Clarissa, the consent of Sourby being chiefly obtained by the lady, who believes he has a design upon her himself, relinquishing her naturally mild character for that of a termagant. The character thus assumed agrees however so well with his own, that, in defiance of previous arrangements, he determines to marry her himself, a design favoured by her fortune being in his power. No other remedy occurs to the lovers to avoid his tyranny than further deception: the lady therefore assumes the character of an extravagant, giddy woman of fashion, who is determined to have 'habits, fashions, fiddles, hautboys, masquerades, concerts, and especially a ball for fifteen days after their nuptials.' Above all, her intended husband must learn to dance; and she will admit of no excuse on the plea of years. In a change of scene the dancing-master arrives; Sourby, as soon as he knows his errand, orders him off and threatens chastisement: but the former having his cue, declares he has positive orders from Clarissa to make him dance, and drawing his sword compels him to do so by force. In the midst of this scene Wentworth arrives, and Sourby, in a fit of rage, renounces the lady. The piece was represented at Covent Garden Theatre, on the 8th of May, 1773, but was not repeated. As it has never been printed, a scene from the MS. copy, in the possession of John Payne Collier, Esq., is here given.—See *Life*, ch. xiii.

Here we have the labour of Mr. Prior word for word, with no addition—no subtraction—of any moment—nothing but a change of place and of a few words in a single sentence. Mr. Cunningham talks of having taken some liberties with almost every note:—the liberty taken with this note consists in its entire appropriation without acknowledgment. Sometimes, however, Mr. Cunningham "adopts" the labours of his predecessor in the style of which Sheridan complained in those who stole his jokes—"mutilating them as the gipsies do stolen children." As instances of this style we may cite one or two of the notes to 'She Stoops to Conquer,'—putting the passages in parallel columns as before.—

Prior in 1837.

"The first representation of this comedy took place at Covent Garden Theatre, on the 13th of March 1773; between which and the conclusion of the season, in consequence of holidays and benefits, no more than twelve nights, including three for the author, remained to the managers: these, however, were occupied by the new comedy, and the house closed with it on the 31st of May. The leading incident of the piece, the mistaking a gentleman's house for an inn, is said to have been borrowed from a blunder of the author himself, while travelling to school at Edgeworthstown. 'It is remarkable enough,' says Sir Walter Scott, in his Biographical Notices of Goldsmith, 'that we ourselves are acquainted with another instance of the kind, which took place, however, in the

Cunningham in 1854.

"'She Stoops to Conquer,' or, the Mistakes of a Night, a Comedy,' was acted for the first time at Covent Garden Theatre (then under the management of the elder Colman), on the 13th of March, 1773, and ran twelve nights, the theatre closing for the season with it on the 31st of May. The leading incident of the piece, the mistaking a gentleman's house for an inn, is said to have been borrowed from a blunder of the author himself, while travelling to school at Edgeworthstown. Its first MS. title was 'The Old House a New Inn,' but this was soon rejected."

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middle rank of life.' Speaking of 'The Stoops to Conquer,' Mr. Johnson said, 'I know of no play, for many years, that has answered so much the great end of comedy—making an audience merry.'

"Smith and Woodward, who were designed to play Young Marlow and Tony Lumpkin, threw up their parts. To this unlooked-for and unnecessary resignation Lee Lewis and Quick owed much of their early celebrity."

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The following apposite note by Mr. Prior is omitted altogether by Mr. Cunningham:—

"A few days before the first representation, Dr. Johnson wrote thus to a friend:—'Goldsmith has a new comedy in rehearsal at Covent Garden, to which the manager predicts ill-success. I hope he will be mistaken. I think it deserves a very kind reception.' Speaking on the same subject, in 1778, he said, 'Both Goldsmith's comedies were once refused: his first by Garrick, his second by Colman, who was prevailed on at last by much solicitation, nay, a kind of force, to bring it on.'"

If we turn to the poems we are equally at a loss to comprehend the logic by which the wholesale appropriation of Mr. Prior's literary property—always, be it remembered, without acknowledgment—can be explained. The first note to 'The Haunch of Venison' is on the lines—

But, for eating a rasher of what they take pride in,
They'd as soon think of eating the pan it is fried in—
and it runs in the two editions thus:—

Prior in 1837.
"Nearly the same thought occurs in 'Animated Nature,' vol. iii. p. 9, as applicable to the peasantry of other countries: 'There is scarcely a cottage in Germany, Poland, and Switzerland, that is not hung round with these marks of hospitality; and which often makes the owner better contented with hunger, since he has it in his power to be luxurious when he thinks proper. A piece of beef hung up there, is considered as an elegant piece of furniture, which, though seldom touched, at least argues the possessor's opulence and ease.'"

Cunningham in 1854.
"There is scarcely a cottage in Germany, Poland, and Switzerland, that is not hung round with these marks of hospitality; and which often makes the owner better contented with hunger, since he has it in his power to be luxurious when he thinks proper. A piece of beef hung up there, is considered as an elegant piece of furniture, which, though seldom touched, at least argues the possessor's opulence and ease.—*History of Animated Nature*, vol. iii. p. 9."

It is thus throughout:—except that now and then Mr. Cunningham is not aware of the value of that which he so "adopts," and so repeats as true in 1854 that which was true in 1837 but is not so now. Here is an instance, from a note on the Irish ale-house, described in a charming passage of 'The Deserted Village.' In 1837 Mr. Prior said very truly—

"The ale-house has been rebuilt by Mr. Hogan, the poet's relative, supplied with the sign of the 'Three Jolly Pigeons,' with new copies of the 'Twelve Golden Rules,' and the 'Royal Game of Goose,' not omitting the 'broken tea-cups, wisely kept for show.'"

Mr. Cunningham "adopts" the note, forgetting the chances and changes of time. Should any luckless traveller, tempted by the hope of enjoying his ease at the "Three Jolly Pigeons," look for the same in the year of grace 1854, we fear he will be sadly disappointed. The place was in ruins two years ago. The addition of the words "Prior, 1837" to the note would have saved Mr. Cunningham from a blunder not very creditable to a maker of Hand-books.

Here, then, we think is propounded a somewhat singular theory of the rights of literary property—a theory illustrated by corresponding practice—for both of which we await some explanation, not to speak at present of defence. Here we have one edition of Goldsmith—with faults and errors plentiful enough, as we have said—but exhibiting on every page the results of taste, time, reading and research,—the whole of which is very complacently adopted by a new

editor without a single line of grateful acknowledgment. Surely this is something new in English literature. If such a method can be introduced and sanctioned in our literary circles—what right shall we have to repudiate and denounce the mode in which Alexandre Dumas "adopts" from all quarters history, drama, poetry and romance?

The chief points, as we gather from the Preface, in which this edition of Goldsmith will be found to differ from former editions, when it shall be completed, are,—the introduction of an unpublished poem (from Mr. Corney's collection),—a new account of the origin of the 'Retaliation' (from Mr. George Daniel's collection)—and some passages from the hack-writings of Goldsmith. The index, we learn, will be "greatly and importantly enlarged."

Before we enter into anything like a formal criticism of this edition of Goldsmith—as an edition of the Humanist and apart from the rival merits or demerits of the editorial plan—we propose to wait until more of it shall be before us. Meanwhile, we can say that, irrespective of its editorial merits, it is a handsome volume, well printed on good paper, solidly bound in blue cloth, and adorned with a pretty vignette:—altogether it is a volume for the library, the boudoir, or the cottage.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Struggles for Life; or, the Autobiography of a Dissenting Minister. (Cash).—That which might be made of the "literature of dissent" for the use of the religious and philosophical reader has hitherto not been made of it, owing to want of charity, want of culture and want of common sense on the part of the writers. The student who desires to know something concerning the large world of humanity and benevolence which lies betwixt the closes of our cathedrals and the benches of those lecture-rooms in which the code of morals is adjusted by a "sliding scale," is compelled to wade through heaps of memoirs, confessions and experiences, during which weary progress he must ever be on the alert to discriminate trash from treasure, sincerity from superstition, personal ambition from pure aspiration; and from his pilgrimage comes home at last with but little grain in his wallet. We turned to this book with appetite—the title seeming to promise an interesting record, if not a fresh revelation:—we have read it with little pleasure. That which is fictitious is heavy and dull: in the style of a bad novel;—that which is real is painful: showing how the Dissenting clergyman was hindered by hampering family cares, from devoting himself, without reference to lucre, to the service of his flock,—and indicating a state of matters which, were it to be accepted as an everyday picture, would be calculated not so much to promote the end which the writer desires to compass—namely, the having built for him a large and handsome chapel—as to give emphasis to the dogma of those who, by ordaining celibacy for their clergy, withdraw them (it is insisted) from an ever-present snare and hindrance. With its writer's perpetual protestations of submission, gratitude, willingness to sacrifice worldly comfort, &c., are oddly mixed up such little narratives of wants supplied, of difficulties averted, and of anxieties charmed away by unexpected strokes of good fortune, as Sydney Smith animadverted on so pungently in his *Edinburgh Review* articles on 'Methodism.'

The Land of the Forum and the Vatican;—or, Thoughts and Sketches during an Easter Pilgrimage to Rome. By Newman Hall, B.A. (Nisbet & Co.).—This is a sketchy account of a tour in Italy, written, as the author announces, "in a religious spirit." Its tone, and the prominence given to debated questions, will deprive it of many readers who are in search of mere amusement. Mr. Newman Hall, however, is by no means a bigot, and discusses delicate themes with a calmness and mildness that do honour to him. He tells us that the early portion of his volume

swelled to an undue size because he sent it to press before the latter portion was ready. Would it not have been better to have kept the public waiting a little longer, and to have preserved due proportions? Some of the most interesting chapters are extracted from a journal kept by the author's wife during the excursion.

Antiquities of Shropshire. By the Rev. R. W. Eyton, Rector of Ryton. Vol. I. Part I. (J. R. Smith).—County history, or at least what is generally understood by that title, is a work of great labour, and when completed, it is not of an attractive character, and the field of its interest, if not of its utility, is very confined. To trace every manor and estate in a county through its various possessors from a remote period is indeed useful mainly from the circumstance, that it would be impossible to do it satisfactorily in a particular instance which might be called for suddenly, and it is only under such circumstances that the merit of the compiler is duly appreciated. There are still various degrees of merit in executing such a task as a county history, inasmuch as the same facts may be given in a more or less clear and lucid arrangement, and in more or less elegant language; and what from the pen of one man might be perfectly unreadable, except as a mere book of reference, might, under the management of a different writer, possess a considerable degree of attraction. This is rather better understood now-a-days than it used to be; and one consequence has been the appearance of fewer elaborate works of this description, because there are few persons willing to undertake the unremunerative labour who are capable of doing it well. County history is indeed hardly yet escaping from the prejudice which connected it almost indissolubly with the notion of the ponderous folios of the old school. Mr. Eyton does not lie under the trammels of this prejudice, for he has commenced his work in the form of a reasonable octavo, and he has condensed his information, and made it, we think, as readable as his materials would admit. Of course it still appeals for support chiefly to local feelings, but when completed it will be a book which may find a place in every gentleman's library in the county to which it belongs, without the objection of enormous bulk or excessive price. There is one peculiarity of Mr. Eyton's plan, which we have not met with in other similar books—it is restricted to the period between the Norman Conquest and the close of the thirteenth century. To some persons this will be an objection, or rather many would prefer a more complete county history. But we must not forget that this includes the most interesting as well as the most difficult part of our manorial history, and that if the field had been enlarged, it must have been laboured less elaborately. To judge from this first number, Mr. Eyton's 'Antiquities of Shropshire' promises to be a valuable book, and we think that it exhibits both care and judgment.

The Works of Quintus Horatius Flaccus; with a Biographical Memoir. By the Rev. H. Thompson, M.A. (Griffin & Co.).—We are glad to see that the practice of illustrating classical works is gaining ground among us. There are scarcely any works which better admit of illustration. We might almost go so far as to say that there are none which more imperatively demand it in order to be properly understood. How many articles of dress, implements of industry, utensils of domestic life, and works of Art of various kinds, are alluded to by classical authors, which are so unlike anything of the sort with which we are familiar, that it is hopeless to think of conveying a correct notion of them without pictorial aid. No writer is more frequent in his allusions to matters capable and deserving of illustration than Horace. His oft-quoted maxim—

Segnius irritant animos demissa per aures,
Quam quæ sunt oculis subjecta fidelibus, et quæ
Ipse sibi tradit spectator,—

is one of universal application, and we are gratified to observe it acted on in reference to his own works. The present instance is encouraging, as showing how much may be done in the way of rendering classical authors intelligible and attractive. It is quite clear that there are materials enough

for the purpose within reach, if we will only make proper use of them. That the attempt deserves success will, we think, be evident, when we say the volume contains upwards of two hundred engravings, taken from good authorities, and judiciously placed just where they are of most service in throwing light on his text. A complete list of descriptive titles of the cuts with the authority for each is prefixed; after which comes an excellent biography of Horace, giving an account of all that is known of him and of his works. The text is good, though the editor has not condescended to state on what basis it is formed. But there is a yet more serious omission—we mean that of notes, not one of which is to be found throughout the whole book. This may have been unavoidable, but it is certainly to be regretted.

The Song of Roland, as Chanted before the Battle of Hastings. By the Minstrel Taillefer. Translated by the Author of 'Emilia Wyndham.' (Hurst & Blackett.)—The fashion of Christmas books illustrated in the Missal style has for the moment passed by. It is almost a pity that this translated Song did not appear during the reign, — since never was book better fitted for such embellishments and borders as Mr. Noel Humphreys could have selected and composed by way of framework for the rude, romantic old text. This the Author of 'Emilia Wyndham' has rendered from the compressed and modernized version, by M. Vitet, of the antique original found by M. Francisque Michel, in our Bodleian Library at Oxford. We have not before us the *Revue des Deux Mondes* in which M. Vitet's version appeared, to enable us to compare the French version with the English one, — but the latter in some degree speaks for itself, being generally picturesque, nervous, and lofty, — the work of one who to the labour of love has brought a hand of skill. For this we were prepared; having never forgotten the power of assuming an antique style exhibited by our authors in her anti-Jesuit novel, — in which the description of a martyrdom recurs to us at this distance of time like a page of some real old chronicle. So far as print, paper, and scale go, all justice has been done to this book, — but we repeat that for a Christmas gift it would have borne the enrichment of illustration.

The Loves of an Apothecary. (Clarke & Co.) — In many respects this may be called a clever story; and we could recommend it were it not for the repulsiveness of the principal incident. John Godwin marries Sybilla, who tries to poison him, is discovered, repents, dies, and makes way for an amiable Jessy, who had previously visited him three times a year "to bless his home with wifely ministrations." Imitations of the abrupt elegance of Sterne deform the style, which in itself is not without grace.

Year-Books and Almanacs. — In the way of year-books and almanacs for the sister country, *Thom's Irish Almanac and Official Directory* for 1854 unquestionably occupies the foremost place. Largest in size of all the tabular and statistical annuals, it is also the fullest in information — if not always the most perfect in arrangement. It comprises in its ample pages — a British directory, a parliamentary directory, a colonial directory, statistics of Ireland, law, university, banking, postal, and all other information interesting to a resident in Ireland and to those connected with Irish affairs. — *The Musical Directory, Register, Almanac and Royal Academy of Music Calendar* addresses a particular profession, and is full of class information. — The same remark must be made on the contents of *The London and Provincial Medical Directory*, which contains a series of notices — a sort of medical peerage — of the members of this profession. — *The Churchman's Year-Book* for 1854 is a record of facts and proceedings in connexion with the Church of England and its members for the past year, — and with this we may conveniently class the first volume of a new annual, entitled *The Private Patronage of the Church of England*, being a sort of handbook to the endowments, whether with or without cure of souls, now at the disposal of the several lay and clerical patrons of the Church. — *The Congregational Year-Book* for 1854, contains, with a large amount of general

matter, a report of the proceedings of the Congregational Union for 1853. — Addressed to all classes, but with a special interest for persons about to insure life or property, is *The Post Magazine, Almanac, and Court and Parliamentary Register*. Its general features are good — though the space here given up to ordinary tables is less ample than in many of its contemporaries; — and it certainly contains the fullest details of existing and projected insurance offices that we should know how to look for anywhere.

American Books. — *Golden Dreams and Lead Realities.* By Ralph Raven. — This is yet another narrative of a scramble to California, a rough residence there, and a return home. The "strange bedfellows" (to adapt the well-known adage) with which money-digging as well as misery makes a man acquainted, and the personal hardships to be endured, are described in a way fit enough to "furnish forth" a Christmas tale, for those who, sitting over the Yule-log, love to let their thoughts wander away to the ends of the earth. — *Clotel; or, the President's Daughter: a Narrative of Slave Life in the United States.* By William Wells Brown, a Fugitive Slave: with a Sketch of the Author's Life. — *The Last Leaf of Sunny Side.* By H. Trusta; with a Memorial of the Author by Austin Phelps. — *Records of Alderbrook; or, Fanny Forester's Village Sketches.* By Emily C. I. Judson. — In the first two of these books the principal interest lies in the biographical matter prefacing the tales they contain. The story of Mr. W. Wells Brown is told, in half a line, on his title-page, — that of Mrs. Phelps will furnish a note or two to any one making out a list of that numerous body, the minor authoresses of America. — 'Alderbrook,' by the lady who is now Mrs. Judson the third, seems familiar to us. There is nothing to harm or to wound in any of these volumes; in 'Clotel' (of course) a voice to swell the chorus which Mrs. Beecher Stowe has raised; but their literary merits are such as can only claim a local — as distinguished from a general — success.

A few words will suffice for the announcement of the following volumes, — the fourth and final volume of the series, *On the State of Man subsequent to the Promulgation of Christianity*, in which the argument and exposition are conducted with the learning, clearness, and delicacy on which we have remarked at length in previous volumes, — an interesting and startling letter to William Brown, Esq. M.P. for South Lancashire, on *Burial Clubs and Infanticide in England*, — Mr. Heinfetter's *Literary Translation of the Gospel according to St. Matthew*, — Mr. James Christie's *Introduction to the Elements of Practical Astronomy*, being the substance of an explanatory course of lectures, — Mr. E. Higginson's *Spirit of the Bible; or, the Nature and Value of the Jewish and Christian Scriptures discriminated*, — Mr. Samuel Fowell's *Treatise on Dentistry and the Care and Preservation of the Teeth*, — and a more elaborate treatise on the same subject by Mr. Patteson Clark, entitled *The Odontologist*, — Dr. Cumming's *Christ our Passover; or, Thoughts on the Atonement*, — and *A Devotional Diary*. — Mr. W. G. Herdman has published an interesting *Treatise on the Curvilinear Perspective of Nature and its Applicability to Art*, a volume somewhat indebted to German sources, very elaborately illustrated. — *A Few Words to the Jews*, by one of themselves, are well meant and eloquently spoken. — *A Report on the Cholera in Jamaica and on the General Sanitary Condition and Wants of the Island* is a State paper devoted to a tale of long neglects and harrowing losses brought about by those neglects. Such a story as this would read like an act of impeachment alike against society and government had it not a story almost as incredible nearer home to keep it company. — *Cobdenic Policy the Internal Enemy of England* is the title of a paper which a cutting from the third chapter tells us "concerns the honour of the literary profession." The writer is the Mr. Somerville whose 'Autobiography of a Working Man' we noticed in the kindest way some time ago, — once a paid lecturer and writer for the League which gave the nation cheap bread and free trade. We are sorry to add, that it is written in a most violent and vengeful spirit — abusive of all who are

liberal in thought or who seek to promote the happiness of mankind in the spirit of the new epoch, from Kossuth to the humblest member of the Peace Society. — Mr. Samuel Knaggs has written a volume on *Unsoundness of Mind considered in relation to the Question of Responsibility for Criminal Acts*, a subject growing more important daily with the frequency and safety of the plea of insanity at the criminal bar. — *A Complete Collection of the most Useful Tables*, by G. Williams, presents in their various relations to each other and at a glance the several weights, measures, and monies used in ancient and modern times. — The Rev. Mr. Hume addresses the public on a *Proposal for Supplying the Suburbs of London with Some of the Churches not required in the City*. — *A Letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury*, in reply to a review of 'Village Sermons,' by Dr. Colenso, — the Rev. C. K. Paul's sermon on *The Communion of Saints*, — *Readings for the Sundays and Holy Days of the Christian Year*, — *The History of a Prayer Book*, in three parts, — a sermon, by the Rev. L. P. Mercier, on *The Present Crisis viewed in its Relation to Prophecy*, — a work, by the author of 'Timology,' called *The Seventh Angel*, — and *A Companion for the Circumcision of Christ* are sufficiently described by their titles.

Seriales. — Among works appearing in Parts of greater or lesser intervals of publication, we have Parts I. and II. of a translation of M. Duménil's new work *Isaak Lakadam*, — Parts I. and II. of *The Life and Adventures of Dick Diminy*, by Priam, — No. II. of *Paul Peabody; or, the Apprentice of the World*, a tale, by Mr. Percy B. St. John, — and Parts up to XXXVII. of the *Cyclopaedia of Useful Arts, Mechanical and Chemical*, edited by Charles Tomlinson. — *Handley Cross; or, Mr. Jorrocks's Aunt* has arrived at the ninth Number. — Sir A. Alison's *History of Europe* is appearing in monthly Parts, — as are, also, the Rev. Charles Williams's *The Alps, Switzerland, Savoy, and Lombardy*, — Mr. Greenwell's *Practical Treatise on Mine Engineering*, — Cassell's *Natural History: the Feathered Tribes*, — Dr. William Smith's *Dictionary of Greek and Roman Antiquity*, — *The English Bible*, — the *Practical Draughtsmen's Book of Industrial Design*, — Dr. Spencer Thomson's *Dictionary of Domestic Medicine*, — a work called *A New Method of French Pronunciation*. — The new issues of Cooke's 'Universal Library,' consist of *The Poems of Robert Burns and The Works of Oliver Goldsmith*. — Mr. Darling's *Cyclopaedia Bibliographica* has reached Part XV. — Dr. William Smith's *Greek and Roman Geography*, Part VIII. — *The Cyclopaedia of Useful Arts*, Part XXXVIII. — The re-issue of the *Portrait Gallery*, Part XXIV. which contains portraits and memoirs (the latter brief and most imperfect) of Cuvier, Napoleon, Scott, Davy, Jefferson and Bolivar. — We have before us Volume VII. of Chambers's *Repository of Instructive and Amusing Tracts*, — and Volume XXIV. of the same publishers' *Pocket Miscellany*.

MEDICAL BOOKS.

Elements of Psychological Medicine. By Daniel Noble, M.D. (Churchill). — This book is intended as an introduction to the medical treatment of insanity. From its style and method as well as the practical knowledge displayed by its author, it is well adapted to attain the object of its publication, — and is interesting to the general not less than the professional reader. We are glad to have Dr. Noble's aid in denouncing the heresy of the phrenological system, as we are convinced that, however important it may be to recognize physical conditions of the brain as influencing mental manifestation, nothing less than confusion in theory and failure in practice are likely to result from the unreasoning adoption of a system so little supported by fact as that of phrenology. Dr. Noble's book is interesting to the non-professional reader — as we have said — on account of the masterly way in which he exposes that grievous defect of our social legislation which permits a couple of medical men — men who possibly have no scientific and peculiar knowledge of the mysterious action of the brain — to consign any unfortunate person to a mad-house. This is certainly a point on which the law requires

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to be brought into closer harmony with the habits of medical education,—and practical men should carefully consult those chapters of Dr. Noble's book which illustrate and expose the wrongs arising from the present unjust mode of dealing with these delicate cases of mental infirmity.

The Science of Health. By Stephen H. Ward, M.D. (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge).—This is a very excellent book on the subjects of which it treats. Dr. Ward writes agreeably and understands his subject, and there are few persons who would not be the wiser and healthier for reading his book; but why Dr. Ward should think it necessary to be patronized by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, or why that body should think itself called on to publish books on science, we are at a loss to discover. We have before pointed out the inconsistency of our religious Societies using the funds placed at their disposal in publishing works on science which in nine cases out of ten are gross plagiarisms.

The Health Guide. By Dr. Butler Lane. (Simpkin & Marshall).—A brief outline of the functions of the body in health and a popular view of the maladies to which it is subject in disease, and of the remedies to be applied. Such books are like edged tools, and unless judiciously employed may be productive of great harm. There are, however, persons, like emigrants and others, removed from medical advice, to whom such a volume may be of service. The education which the public require in relation to health is more in the principles of physiology than in the nature of disease and its treatment.

The Circle of Life—[*Der Kreislauf des Lebens*]. By Dr. Moleschott. (Marcus).—This work is intended as an answer to some of the statements made in Liebig's chemical letters. The author is well known as the exponent of the doctrines of Mulder, and all who are interested in the progress of physiology and the application of chemical laws to the explanation of the phenomena of life will read this work with interest.

A text-book of Physiology. By Dr. G. Valentin, translated and edited by W. Brinton, M.D. (Renshaw).—The name of Valentin is familiar to those who have been engaged in the study of physiology during the last twenty years through his great work, which, although entitled a "Lehrbuch," is a systematic treatise on this science, and a copious repository of its facts. The demand for exhaustive works of this kind is not sufficiently general to induce an English translator to introduce it to the British public; but Dr. Brinton has done good service in translating a smaller work on physiology written by the Professor. As we turned over the pages of this volume and compared it with the elementary instruction given on physiology twenty-five years ago, we felt that there is scarcely any department of science in which so large an amount of new observation has been made in that interval. That this observation has resulted in the induction of principles immediately applicable to the practical purposes of life we cannot say, but we are of opinion that materials are every day accumulating by which a better knowledge may be obtained of the mystery of life and organization. If there be one thing which more than another distinguishes the present text-book, it is the investigation of the general physical laws which influence the various vital phenomena; we would refer to the chapters on evaporation, locomotion, hearing, sight, &c., where the physical conditions involved in these functions are described. The work is illustrated with 500 engravings on wood, copper and stone.

Homoeopathy in 1851. By J. R. Russell, M.D. (Groombridge).—If we may judge by our library table, homoeopathy is not in 1854 what it was in 1851. However frequently new delusions arise to occupy the human mind, there is a sure and inevitable law by which the old ones die. Homoeopathy is evidently hastening towards that limbo of forgetfulness into which table-turning and spirit-rapping have within the last few months been so hastily precipitated, and where faith in witchcraft, hobgoblins, astrology, alchemy, and the Great Serpent has gone before. We cannot but rejoice that a delusion so discreditable to the medical pro-

fession and so disastrous to the public should at last be giving signs that its baneful influence is on the wane.

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 Youth's (The) Magazine, 1853, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.

DESIGNS ON THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

We have received the following letter from Sir Charles Barry, and though it has reached us at the last hour, we give it immediate insertion.—

"Sir,—The article which appears in the last number of the *Athenæum*, headed 'Designs on the British Museum,' is founded either upon ignorance or misconception of the facts and circumstances of my employment by the Government in connection with the proposed alterations to the Museum of that building. The writer's conclusions and imputations, therefore, are not only erroneous, but unwarrantable.

"I am, &c. CHARLES BARRY."

In questions of this nature—the doings and misdoings in relation to which are secret and official—it is so difficult for the public, and for those who act as sentinels for the public, to get at the exact truth, that we are rather gratified than otherwise to find that our information was so much to the point, so near to truth in its details, that its statements can only be questioned in the most general terms. What does Sir Charles deny?—what admit? We never supposed—no rational being ever could suppose—that Sir Charles had taken the Museum by storm. We knew the contrary. It would, however, have made no difference in our argument if he had. Our remarks of last week were made as a protest against his lines being drawn around it or about it—as a protest against all tinkering,

tamperings, and adaptations whatsoever, whether done under pretence of "increase of accommodation," or any other,—and whether executed by Sir Charles or by any other person. If such follies were to be perpetrated at all, in defiance of reason and economy, then we think it would be more respectful, more according to usage, delicacy, and common sense, if the nation were to issue its commission—and entrust the task of alteration—to the original architects. They, it is to be presumed, would touch the building with greater reverence—labour at the work in a more sympathizing spirit. Of course, Sir Charles was employed by Government:—we never said he was not. But in such a case as this, "employment by the Government" is a phrase that evades all responsibility. We hear eternal talk about "Government,"—but we never yet found out the exact representative of this mysterious power,—the responsible man. The Press occasionally tries to discover the real Simon Pure, but it is always baffled. Parliament has often raised a laugh against itself by the misdirection of its inquiries. We have seen Member after Member, Committee after Committee, burst open-mouthed through all possible and impossible offices, and yet never stumble on this Great Shadow. No doubt it was this same Government, kith or kin, that "employed" somebody to do and undo, construct, re-construct, and pull down,—as was set forth last week in illustration of our argument. We do not believe it would be possible even yet to fix the responsibilities of all that profitless and profligate expenditure. The system, however, was and is the same—silence and mystification until the work is begun, and—we were about to add—"finished"; but the pen pauses at the thought of Palace Yard, Trafalgar Square, Great Russell Street, and Buckingham Palace. Buckingham Palace was positively built, and no one—not even a single member of Parliament—knew that it was begun. From first to last, if we are not mistaken, the votes were for "repairs;" and we remember a huge brick something—wall, screen, gable-end of chapel—that stood to the last hour, covering the south side from the public eye—leaving the dwellers in Pimlico and the idlers in Bird Cage Walk to wonder at the extent of the repairs,—when "ho, presto!" it vanished suddenly like the scaffolding of an Easter piece, and there was a new palace. Of course Mr. Nash was employed by somebody; and so were all the rest of our accomplished architects, from Wyatt to Wyattville—probably by this same "Government" or a like intangible nonentity. Our objections do not lie specially against the possible misdeeds of Sir Charles Barry. We object to all architects alike—not to the men but to the measures—to the attempt—by whomsoever made, or by whatsoever authority it may be screened—to evade an inherent difficulty by costly schemes, which, in the nature of things, cannot lead to any other than temporary and illegitimate results.

We will admit that the great feature of Sir Charles Barry's project is not new:—a design for inclosing the great central square appeared some eighteen months ago in *The Builder*. We said not one word against that proposal; for the mysterious Shadow, under cover of which Sir Charles Barry now retires, was not then looming in the background. While it was an ingenious speculation—and no more—we were content to leave the speculator to gather all the laurels of his ingenuity. It was a glimpse of the advancing Shadow that alarmed us into timely protest. Silence becomes an error when the genius of speculation begins to do its spitting in the name of the country and under the "employment of Government."

EXPEDITION TO CENTRAL AFRICA.

THE last mail has brought communications from Dr. Vogel, written while on his march from Murzuk to Lake Tsad, dated the 4th of November, 1853. He was then at Tegerry, between Murzuk and Bilma, where a stay for several days was made, for the purpose of collecting provisions to enable the caravan to cross a desert a-head, which is ten days' journey in width, and without any vegetation. The winter had set in; that is to say, the heat

had slightly decreased—the temperature not exceeding 82° to 85° at noon. But this agreeable change of the season was ushered in with frightful sandstorms and gusts of wind, obliterating every trace of the road,—so entirely so, that the brother-in-law of the Pasha of Murzuk, who was two days behind, had lost his way for three days; and the caravan would probably have shared the same fate but for the intimate knowledge the Bornuese prince had of the localities traversed. While at Gatrone (between Murzuk and Tegerry) the great caravan arrived from Bornu, with 400 to 500 slaves, mostly consisting of girls and boys under twelve years of age. "It was for the first time," Dr. Vogel says, "that I got some idea of what slavery and slave-trade actually is." The unfortunate captives, being forced to carry burdens of as much as twenty-five pounds in weight on their heads, had lost the hair and even the skin of the crown of the head. Besides which, they have to cross the Desert in iron shackles, which are taken off only on their arrival in Murzuk, and they are maltreated during their march in the most horrible way, receiving the scantiest food possible.

Along with the caravan arrived one of the sons of the Bornuese prince, who brought the information that nothing further had been heard in Kuka from Dr. Barth up to the beginning of August last, except that his journey was traced as far as Sakatu. The informant also brought the important news that war had commenced between the Fellatahs and Bornuese; and that the sultan of the latter had sent an army to the westward against Kano, one of the most important Fellatah provinces, with the design to take the capital, which in commercial importance is to Sudan what London is to the British Empire. The communications with the countries Dr. Barth is now exploring are thus at present interrupted, and therefore all opportunities to hear from him are for the time cut off. No anxiety need on that account be felt for the safety and success of the courageous and energetic traveller. On the contrary, his having secured the friendship of the Fellatahs before the outbreak of the said war, will afford him an opportunity to explore their dominions which he would not now possess. It will be remembered by your readers (*Athen. No. 1322*) that his plan was to reach Timbuktu by way of Sakatu, and then return to the latter place en route to Yakoba and the countries on the middle course of the great river he discovered in Adamaua, the Chadda—Bennu. In the beginning of March, 1853, he was at Kashna; the *galadima* (prime minister) of Sakatu having taken him under his special protection, and promised to have him safely escorted to that place, the capital of the great Fellatah chief. It is highly probable that by the time the screw-steamer will ascend the Chadda,—namely, in July next,—Dr. Barth will be in that very region, or directing his steps towards it,—so that it is not unreasonable to hope that the Steamboat Expedition will hear of him, if not actually meet him:—for having once secured the friendship and protection of the Fellatahs, he would have no difficulty in working his way from Sakatu to Yakoba and beyond, the whole region belonging to the Fellatah dominions (for extent of the Fellatah dominions, see the map in the *Royal Geographical Calendar* for 1854). Already, in June, 1851, when in his most interesting and important journey to Adamaua, he reached Yola, the capital, he formed the determination to go to Sakatu, in order to pay a visit to the great chief of the Fellatahs,—for although very kindly received in Adamaua, the Sultan told him he was only a slave of his master in Sakatu, and that he could not take it upon himself, without the permission from his Highness, to allow him to stay long in his country; but that if he brought a letter from Sakatu he would be at liberty to go where, and to stay as long as he liked. It is to be hoped that Dr. Barth's indefatigable endeavours to secure the good will of the Fellatahs, and his having travelled among them for about eighteen months by the next summer, will be of direct benefit to the Steamboat Expedition starting from here next spring.

Some letters from Dr. Barth himself arrived on the present opportunity,—but as they are of an

older date than those already received in September last, they contain no additional news.

Jan. 20.

AUGUSTUS PETERMANN.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Death and Funeral of a Buddhist Priest.

China, Oct. 30, 1853.

HAPPENING to be staying for a few days in a large Buddhist temple situated amongst the tea hills near Ningpo, I witnessed some ceremonies connected with the death and funeral of a Buddhist priest, which appeared so curious and interesting that I was induced to note them down at the time, and I now send them to you in the hope that they may prove acceptable to the readers of the *Athenæum*. There are two orders of the priesthood in a large Buddhist monastery. The first and most numerous is that whose members assemble daily in the largest temple and perform a sort of cathedral service which I have described in an earlier volume (*Athen. No. 1206*). The bodies of these men are burned after death and their ashes preserved in urns erected for that purpose. The second occupy neat little houses, where they lead a very lazy sort of life, and seem to have nothing but their private devotions to attend to. Their bodies are not burned after death like the former, but are conveyed to the most lovely spots on the sides of the hills; spots which they had selected for themselves during their lifetime. One of these men died during my sojourn in the monastery.

A young priest—a mere boy—came running breathless one morning into the house where I was staying, and call out to my host, also a priest, "Come with me, make haste, for Tang-a is dying." We hastened to the adjoining house, which was the abode of the sick man, but found that the king of terrors had been before us, and the priest was dead. By this time about a dozen persons were collected who were all gazing intently on the countenance of the dead man. After allowing a few minutes to elapse, orders were given to have the body washed and dressed, and removed from the bed to a small room with an open front, which was situated on the opposite side of the little court. Mosquito curtains were then hung round the bed on which the body was placed, a lamp and some candles were lighted, as well as some sticks of incense, and these were kept burning day and night. For three days the body lay in state, during which time, at stated intervals, four or five priests decked in yellow robes chanted their peculiar service. On the third day I was told that the coffin was ready,—and, on expressing a wish to see it, was led into an adjoining temple. "Are there two priests dead?" said I, on observing another coffin in the same place. "No," said one, "but that second coffin belongs to the priest who lived with deceased, and it will remain here until it is needed."

On the evening of this day, when I returned from my labours amongst the hills, I called in again to see what was going on, and now a very different scene presented itself. And here I must endeavour to describe the form of the premises in order that this scene may be better understood. The little house or temple consisted of a centre and two wings, the wings being built at right angles with the centre and forming with it three sides of a square, a high wall connecting the two wings, and so a little court or Chinese garden was formed, very small in extent. A square table was placed inside the central hall or temple, one in front of it, and one in front of each of the two wings. Each of these tables was covered with good things—such as rice, vegetables, fruits, cakes, and other delicacies, all the produce of the vegetable kingdom, and intended as a feast for Buddha, whom these people worship. This offering differed from others which I had often seen in the public streets and in private houses, in having no animal food in any of the dishes. The Buddhist priesthood profess an abhorrence of taking away animal life or of eating animal food, and hence no food of the kind was observed on any of the tables now before me. On two strings which were hung diagonally across the court, from the central temple to each end of the front wall, were hung numerous

small paper dresses cut in Chinese fashion, and on the ground were large quantities of paper made up in the form and painted the colour of the ingots of Sycee silver common in circulation. The clothes and silver were intended as an offering to Buddha, and was certainly a cheap way of giving away valuable presents. A rude painting of Buddha was hung up in the centre of the court, in front of which incense was burning,—and these with many other objects of minor note completed the picture which was presented to my view. "Is not this very fine," said the priest to me, "have you any exhibitions of this kind in your country? You must pay a visit in the evening, when all will be lighted up with candles, and when the scene will be more grand and imposing." I promised to return in the evening, and took my leave.

About eight o'clock at night an old priest came to inform me that all was lighted up, that the ceremonies were about to begin, and kindly asked me to accompany him. On our entrance, the whole court was blazing with the light of many candles, the air was filled with incense, and the scene altogether had an extraordinary and imposing effect. A priest dressed in a rich scarlet robe, and having a sort of star-shaped crown on his head, with four others of an inferior order, were marching up and down the court, and bowing lowly before the images of the gods. At last they entered the central hall, and took their seats at two tables. The high priest, if I may call him so, occupied the head of the room, and had his chair and table placed on a higher level than the others, who were exactly in front of him. A servant now placed a cup of tea before each of them, and the service began. The high priest uttered a few sentences in a half-singing tone, making at the same time a great many motions with his fingers as he placed and replaced a number of grains of rice on the table before him. Two little boys, dressed in deep mourning (white), were engaged in prostrating themselves many times before the table at which the high priest sat; and, as a singular contrast to all this seeming devotion, a number of Chinese were sitting smoking on each side, and looking on as if there was a play or some other kind of like amusement. The other priests had now joined in the chant, which was sometimes slow, and at other times quick and loud, but generally in a melancholy tone, like all Chinese music.

A priest, who was sitting at my elbow, now whispered in my ear that Buddha himself was about to appear. "You will not see him, nor shall I, nor any one in the place except the high priest, who is clothed in the scarlet robe, and has a star-shaped crown on his head:—he will see him." Some one outside now fired three rockets, and at once every sound was hushed; one might have heard a pin drop on the ground; and the priest at my elbow whispered—"Buddha comes."—"Prostrate yourselves: ah! pull your caps off," said one to the young priests in white, already noticed. The boys immediately took off their little white caps, and bent lowly on the straw cushions placed in front of the various altars, and knocked their heads many times on the ground. At this particular moment, the whole scene was one of the strangest it had ever been my lot to witness, and although I knew it was nothing else than delusion and idolatry, I must confess it produced an almost superstitious effect on my feelings. "And is Buddha now here in the midst of us," I asked the gentleman at my elbow. "Yes, he is," he said; "the high priest sees him, although he is not visible to any one besides." Things remained in this state for a minute or two, and then the leader of the ceremonies commenced once more to chant in that drawing tone I have already noticed, to make various gyrations with his hands, placing and replacing the rice grains, and the others joined in as before. My old friend the priest, who had brought me in to see these ceremonies, now presented himself and told me I had seen all that was worth seeing, that the services were nearly over, and that it was very late and time to go home. On our way to our quarters, he informed me the funeral would take place early next morning, just before sunrise, and that if I wished to attend he would call me at the proper time.

Early in the morning, before the highest moment of report of down to the evening hours of the court and entirely morose of the gods I silver ingots painted de offering, having been As the inside the the large rockets y priests j reached t deposited huge im further, a business temple, a Coolies we by which two men rockets, went tw poles, then cam carrying burning. After th by the t deceased servants train of I stood temple, occasion beautiful peeping monaster water, with d and stri The bo moving the cle their st in fron brushw view. the tem decaas cal— follow with follow temple and se body t was a of a r ceremon left th covere opport

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Early in the twilight of next morning, and just before the sun's rays had tinged the peaks of the highest mountains, I was awakened by the loud report of fireworks. Dressing hastily, I hurried down to the house where the scene of the preceding evening had been acted, and found myself among the last of the sorrowful procession. Looking into the court and hall, I found that the sacrifices had been entirely removed, the tables were bare, not a morsel of any kind remained, and it seemed as if the gods had been satisfied with their repast. The silver ingots, too, and the numerous gaudily-painted dresses which had been presented as an offering, were smouldering in a corner of the court, having been consumed by holy fire.

As the funeral procession proceeded slowly down, inside the covered pathway adjoining the temple, the large bell tolled in slow and measured tones, rockets were fired now and then, and numerous priests joined in as we went along. Having reached the last temple of the range, the body was deposited on two stools in front of one of the huge images, and, China-like, before proceeding further, all went home to breakfast. This important business finished, the assembly met again in the temple, and performed a short service, while the Coolies were busily employed in adjusting the ropes by which they carried the coffin. All being ready, two men went outside the temple and fired three rockets, and then the procession started. First went two boys, carrying small flags on bamboo poles, then came two men beating brass gongs, and then came the chief mourner, dressed in white, and carrying on a small table two candles which were burning, some incense, and the monumental tablet. After the chief mourner came the coffin, followed by the young priests of the house to which the deceased belonged, also clad in white, then the servants and undertaker, and last of all, a long train of priests.

I stood on one side of the lake, in front of the temple, in order to get a good view of the procession as it wound round the other. It was a beautiful October morning; the sun was now peeping over the Eastern mountains, behind the monastery, and shedding a flood of light on water, shrubs, and trees, while every leaf sparkled with drops of dew. In such a scene this long and striking procession had a most imposing effect. The boys with their flags, the chief mourner moving slowly along with his candles burning in the clear daylight, the long line of priests with their shaven heads and flowing garments, the lake in front, and the hills, covered with trees and brushwood behind, were at once presented to my view. As we passed a bridge, a little way from the temple, a man belonging to the family of the deceased, and who carried a basket containing *cash*—a Chinese coin—presented a number of the followers with a small sun, which they received with apparent reluctance. Most of the priests followed the bier but a short distance from the temple; but the chief mourner, the intimate friends, and servants, with a band of music, followed the body to its last resting-place. The spot selected was a retired and beautiful one, on the lower side of a richly wooded hill. Here, without further ceremonies than the firing of some rockets, we left the coffin, on the surface of the ground, to be covered with thatch or brickwork at a future opportunity.

R. F.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

Our table groans under the weight and variety of literary treasures daily pouring in,—and we have still before us the promise of large and interesting additions to our stock. To begin at the West End. Mr. Murray announces a new series of reprints, to be called "The British Classics,"—the first volume of which has appeared, and is reviewed elsewhere in our columns to-day. The works of this new series are generally in first-rate editorial hands,—and those who love to collect our standard authors in handsome library editions may well congratulate themselves on the issue. Among the more important volumes now announced as in course of preparation, are—"Milman's Gibbon," to be re-edited by Dr. William

Smith,—Mr. Croker's long-expected edition of 'The Writings of Pope,'—Scott's Works of Dryden and Swift, both re-edited,—an edition of Addison, by the Rev. W. Elwin,—and Johnson's 'Lives of the British Poets,' to be edited by Mr. Peter Cunningham. In the same publisher's general list of forthcoming books we notice Dr. Waagen's 'Treasures of Art in Great Britain,'—Dr. Hooker's 'Himalayan Journals,'—and Sir R. Murchison's 'Siluria.'—Messrs. Longman have in the press, Mr. Erskine's 'History of India under the House of Timur.'—New works of fiction are announced by Messrs. Hurst & Blackett (the successors to Mr. Colburn) as preparing for publication during the present season, from the pens of Miss Mitford, Mrs. Gore, Mrs. Trollope, Miss Pardoe, the Author of 'Emilia Wyndham,' and the Author of 'Margaret Maitland.'—Messrs. Hall, Virtue & Co. are preparing 'The Chronicles of Merrie England,' by the Author of 'Mary Powell,'—'Evenings in my Tent,' by the Rev. N. Davis,—and a book for social reading by Miss Strickland with the well-worn title 'Rome: Regal and Republican.'—Mr. Bentley announces as in the press—Guizot's 'History of Oliver Cromwell and the English Commonwealth,'—Col. Markham's 'Shooting Scenes in the Himalayas, Chinese Tartary, &c.,'—Mr. Turnerelli's 'Russia on the Borders of Asia,'—the 'Memoirs and Correspondence of Henry St. George Tucker,'—and Mr. Waldo Emerson's 'English Notes.'—From the press of the Messrs. Hope & Co. we are to expect Mr. Fowler's 'History of the Ottoman Empire.'—Messrs. Parker are about to publish 'A Year with the Turks,' by Mr. Harrington Smyth,—'The Poetical Remains' of Mackworth Praed,—'Our Cruise in the Undine,'—Admiral Smyth's 'The Mediterranean: a Memoir,'—'Poems,' by Frederick Tennyson,—Mr. Stirling's 'Don John of Austria,'—and Mr. Cooley's 'Claudius, Ptolemy and the Nile.'

The Count de Peyronnet, who has just died, aged 77, at his seat of Montferrand near Bordeaux, twenty-three years after he helped Charles X. off the throne of France, by signing the Press Decrees which brought on the Revolution of 1830, claims notice in a literary journal, from his having occupied some of the first days of his downfall by publishing a few slight but not unpleasing essays and other literary efforts.

A very curious incident in the life of the late Lord Plunket is talked of in well-informed circles of Dublin society. It appears that in his declining years he had occupied himself with drawing up some particulars of events in his public career. But his mind, as was not unnatural at his protracted years, was subject to aberration; and not long since he chanced one day to come on the papers, which he had composed in perfect health, and seizing them he suddenly cast them into the fire and destroyed them all! We are not informed as to whether the papers were a retrospective record of his varied life or whether it was a journal kept in his later years.—The name of Mr. Edward Berwick, the President of Queen's College, Galway (and the grand-nephew of the late Henry Grattan), has been mentioned as that of Lord Plunket's biographer.

The following note from Dr. Hincks will be satisfactory to many correspondents whose remarks on the subject have reached us within a few weeks:—"The letter of your Correspondent 'J. R.' requires some notice. Various paragraphs on the subject to which he alludes have appeared in London and provincial papers; and it may suffice to say that there was none of them the writer of which was perfectly acquainted with 'the facts of the case.' It is not necessary nor desirable that these should be published. Your correspondent, however, may be glad to know that Dr. E. Hincks does not now contemplate that speedy abandonment of his censure investigations which he did when his advertisement appeared in your paper of the 24th ult.; and that the necessity which he believed to exist for the announcement then made was not caused by Col. Rawlinson or his friends."

"E. H."

Mr. T. S. Carr is of opinion—in reference to our assertion of last week that the chapters in Dr.

William Smith's new 'History of Greece' on literature and art "give it a decided advantage over all previous works of the kind"—that the second edition of his 'History of Greece' should be excepted. We do not recollect the edition in question; but, presuming that Mr. Carr is right in his statement of amendments and additions having been introduced since the work originally appeared, he is entitled to his precedence. The question of superiority is another matter.

Lieut. Burton—who, under the assumed name of Sheik Abdalla, has lately been on a visit to Medina, Mecca, and some other Arabian cities, at the instance of the Royal Geographical Society—has returned to Egypt.

Mr. Wallace, the record of whose enterprises and discoveries are reviewed in another part of our paper, has obtained a free passage out to the East, where he proposes to extend the area of his explorations. The geographical exploration of the Rio Negro by Mr. Wallace having attracted the attention of the Royal Geographical Society, a strong application was made to the Foreign Office for letters of recommendation from the Courts of Holland and Spain to the authorities of their respective Eastern colonies,—to our own Admiralty, and to the great steam navigation companies, for a free passage for him to the East. The former, through the kind intercession of the Earl of Clarendon, were immediately obtained; and the latter, after much delay, has been granted by the Admiralty. Mr. Wallace will soon leave his native shores on board one of Her Majesty's vessels, in order to resume his undertakings in the field of scientific research.

The Institute of France has completed its annual organization. In the Academy of Moral and Political Science, M. Guizot, Vice-President of the previous year, was elected President. M. Amédée Thierry was named Vice-President. In the Academy of Fine Arts, M. Forster was elected President, and M. Amb. Thomas, Vice-President.—The place of M. Jusseu, in the Botanical section of the Academy of Sciences, has been filled up by the election of M. Tulasne.

American papers bring us report of a new MS. series of Shakspearean discoveries. One Mr. Quincy, of Boston, asserts that his copy of the fourth folio of the dramas contains four hundred manuscript emendations. They are said to be by an unknown hand, and that they occur with more or less frequency through sixteen of the plays. Many of them coincide with the corrections found in Mr. Collier's folio.

The Cambridge Philo-Union Society is said to have requested Sir E. B. Lytton to preside at its twenty-eighth anniversary,—and to have received from our literary Baronet the following answer:—

"Sir,—I am not so fond of speaking and lecturing as you must have pre-supposed, and would rather go sixty miles to avoid than sixty miles to increase the infliction you so kindly suggest to me. It is only in very rare and special instances—where I might really be of service—that I attend other public meetings than those of Parliament; and certainly Cambridge is the last place in the world at which philosophy and letters can be supposed to require aid or commendation. I have, &c., E. BULWER LYTTON."

"I, Park Lane, Dec. 28, 1853."

We perceive that within the week, Sir E. Lytton has been delivering his inaugural address as President of the Associated Societies of Edinburgh University.

On Wednesday last, in a sale of books by Messrs. Puttick & Co., of Piccadilly, occurred two lots which it may be worth a line to note. Lot 258 was a curious volume relating to the City of London, containing some remarkable items connected with the Cutlers' Company, and the original Belle Sauvage, Ludgate Hill, and in which is mentioned some singular gifts, &c. connected with the family of the Crathornes. It appears by the announcement in the Catalogue to have been the account-book of one Thomas Bywater. Lot 592 was a monument of the industry of that able draughtsman, John Carter:—the original sketches and drawings of that elaborate work, the 'Ancient Architecture of England,' and containing two more drawings than are found in the published works. The Catalogue also contained some curious works on America, controversial theology, abstruse sciences and history.

Mr. Hardman enables us to correct some errors in the paragraph copied into our last week's "Miscellanea" from *The Evangelical Christendom*, on the subject of the recovery of the Court MSS. We rectify these errors all the more willingly as we find that mis-statements of the real facts of the case have appeared in the *Union* of Brussels, the *Semaine Religieuse* of Geneva, and the *Paris Archives du Christianisme*. Mr. Hardman writes:—"In the first place, the writer [of the paragraph in question] apparently confounds Antoine Court, the father, who wrote the *Histoire du Refuge*, and who died in 1760, with Court de Gébelin, the son, who died in 1784. Secondly, he implies a belief, in the last lines quoted, that Court's history embraces a considerable period, whereas, in fact, Antoine Court gave up his undertaking after completing two volumes, containing the history of the French Reformed Church from 1685 to 1690, and no farther. Those two volumes (MS. in 4to.) have long been open to public inspection, ranged in their places upon the shelves of the Geneva library amongst the voluminous collection of the "Court Papers,"—consisting of 116 bound volumes, besides detached and unclassified documents. All that M. Haag claims to have done is, to have established, by a careful and patient examination, the identity of those two volumes with an unpublished work of Antoine Court's, erroneously supposed to have been lost. This I am assured that he has done in a perfectly conclusive manner. The two volumes in question are far from possessing the originality and value of others of the works of that truly great and courageous man, Pastor Antoine Court. He has made but little use of original documents—a very large one of Benoit's *Histoire de la Révocation de l'Édit de Nantes*, of Jurieu's *Lettres Pastorales*, and of the narrations published by some of the sufferers from Louis the Fourteenth's cruel and unwise policy. Far from being unknown, the volumes in question have been read and used by two recent writers on the subject, Mr. R. Sayons and Mr. Charles Weiss. The first named mentions them, under the title of *Histoire Manuscrite des Eglises Réformées*, and under that of *Mémoires inédits pour servir à l'Histoire des Eglises Réformées de France et de leur Dispersion depuis la Révocation de l'Édit de Nantes*, in his *Histoire de la Littérature Française à l'Etranger*, Vol. I. pp. 304 and 313. Mr. Weiss refers to them, under the general title of *Manuscrits d'Antoine Court*, in his *Histoire des Réfugiés Protestants*, Vol. II. pp. 288 and 293. Any of your readers who may desire farther details on this subject will find them in the fifth number of the *Bulletin de la Société de l'Histoire du Protestantisme Français*, in which M. Haag's note appears.—I remain, &c. F. HARDMAN."

He would be a bold man who would undertake to answer for the literary accuracy of American facts. Our brothers on the further side of the Atlantic are proverbial for an exaggeration which becomes humorous, fantastic, or sublime, according to the form it may chance to take, or the fancy from which it proceeds. In a land that, by its own definition, is "bounded by the southern pole and the Aurora Borealis," magnificent figures of speech may be expected,—but it will sometimes happen that in copying New York papers the English journalist, used to the statements of his own unimaginative news-purveyors, may be so off his guard as to allow the favourite figure of the American rhetoricians to escape. Thus, a paragraph has been copied into several papers, our own included, from a New York source, to the effect that "for the last few years the Messrs. Harpurs have published on the average 25,000 volumes a minute for ten hours a day." We presume that in this case the three ciphers represent the poetical excitement of the reporters,—and that 25 volumes per minute is the fact—a very great and striking one—meant to be put on the records.

A meeting of printers, publishers and authors has been held in Philadelphia to originate a movement for a monument to the great Pennsylvania printer and author, Benjamin Franklin. "The meeting," says the *Norton Gazette*, "resolved to appoint an Executive Committee of fifty-six to take general supervision of the whole subject, and prepare an address to the printers and literary men of

the Union. The peculiar fitness of the number to constitute the Executive Committee, fifty-six, was explained by the mover of the resolution, Col. Wallace, by stating that it was the number of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, of which august body Dr. Franklin was a member; and that it would, moreover, afford a fair representation for seven classes of persons who were entitled to the distinction, viz.: Practical printers, publishers, authors, literary men, reporters, conductors of magazines, and proprietors of newspapers."

Some statistics of the sale of books in America are before us—a glance at which may interest the general as well as the literary reader on this side of the great waters. To begin with a few notes on English reprints in America, we notice that of the octavo edition of the *Modern British Essayists*, there have been sold in five years not less than 80,000 volumes. Of Macaulay's *Miscellanies*, 3 vols. 12mo., the sale has amounted to 60,000 volumes. Of Miss Agular's writings, the sale, in two years, has been 100,000 volumes. Of Murray's *Encyclopædia of Geography*, more than 50,000 volumes have been sold, and of M'Culloch's *Commercial Dictionary*, 10,000 volumes. Of Alexander Smith's *Poems*, the sale, in a few months, has reached 10,000 copies. The sale of Mr. Thackeray's works in America is said to have been quadruple that in England,—and that of the works of Mr. Dickens counts almost by millions of volumes. Of *Bleak House*, in all its various forms—in newspapers, magazines and volumes—the sale has already amounted to several hundred thousands of copies. Of Bulwer's last novel, since it was completed, the sale is said to have exceeded 35,000. Of Thiers's *French Revolution and Consulate*, there have been sold 32,000, and of Montagu's edition of Lord Bacon's works 4,000 copies. Of American authors, the most popular—not excepting Mrs. Stowe—is Mr. Washington Irving;—and of all native works his have been the most widely circulated. Prior to the publication of the edition recently issued by Mr. Putnam, the sale had amounted to some hundreds of thousands; and yet of that edition, selling at 1 dollar 25 cents per volume, it has already amounted to 144,000 volumes. Of Uncle Tom, the sale has amounted to 295,000 copies, partly in one, and partly in two volumes, and the total number of volumes amounts probably to about 450,000. Of the two works of Miss Warner, *Queechy*, and the *Wide, Wide World*, the sale in America has been 104,000 volumes. The following may be also noted:—*Fern Leaves*, by Fanny Fern, in six months, 45,000; *Reveries of a Bachelor*, and other books, by Ik. Marvel, 70,000; *Alderbrook*, by Fanny Forester, 3 vols. 33,000; *Northrup's Twelve Years a Slave*, 20,000; *Novels of Mrs. Hentz*, in three years, 93,000; *Major Jones's Courtship and Travels*, 31,000; *Salad for the Solitary*, by a new author, in five months, 5,000; *Headley's Napoleon and his Marshals*, Washington and his Generals, and other works, 200,000; *Stephens's Travels in Egypt and Greece*, 80,000; *Stephens's Travels in Yucatan and Central America*, 60,000; *Kendall's Expedition to Santa Fé*, 40,000; *Western Scenes*, 14,000; *Young's Science of Government*, 12,000; *Seward's Life of John Quincy Adams*, 30,000; *Frost's Pictorial History of the World*, 3 vols. 60,000; *Sparks's American Biography*, 25 vols. 100,000; *Encyclopædia Americana*, 14 vols. 280,000; *Griswold's Poets and Prose Writers of America*, 3 vols. 21,000; *Barnes's Notes on the Gospels, Epistles, &c.*, 11 vols. 300,000; *Aiken's Christian Minstrel*, in two years, 40,000; *Alexander on the Psalms*, 3 vols. 10,000; *Buist's Flower Garden Directory*, 10,000; *Cole on Fruit Trees*, 18,000; *Cole on Diseases of Domestic Animals*, 34,000; *Leslie's Cookery and Receipt Books*, 96,000; *Wood and Bache's Medical Dispensary*, 60,000; *Dunglison's Medical Writings*, in all 10 vols. 50,000; *Webster's Works*, 6 vols. 46,800; *Kent's Commentaries*, 4 vols. 84,000. Such a list looks rather odd under the light of the misrepresentation that the Anglo-American enjoys no native-born literature, and relies on English writers for his intellectual nourishment.

COLISEUM, Regent's Park.—Admission, 1s.—The original PANORAMA of LONDON BY DAY is exhibited daily from half-past Ten till half-past Four. The extraordinary PANORAMA of LONDON BY NIGHT, every Evening, Saturday excepted, from Seven till Ten. Music from Two till half-past Four, and dancing from half-past Four till half-past Ten. The second PANORAMA, CYCLOPÆDIA, ALBION, Street, ALBION, Street, and QUAKER.—This celebrated and unique Moving Panorama, representing the destruction of Lisbon by Earthquake in 1755, is exhibited daily, at Three Evening, Saturday excepted, at 3 o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Children and Schools, half-price.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street.—ARCTIC DISCOVERIES.—An Illustrated Lecture on the NORTH-WEST PASSAGE, the Pictorial Authorities principally contributed by Captain Inglefield, R.N. will precede the opening of CONSTANTINOPLE and ST. PETERSBURGH, and the INDIA and AUSTRALIA. Now exhibiting daily at 3 and 5 o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.; Reserved Seats, 3s.; Children, Half-price.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, including the BEN-NESE OBERLAND and the SIMPLON, every Evening at Eight o'clock, except Saturday; and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday Mornings at Two.—Stalls, 2s., which can be taken at the Box Office every day, from Eleven to Four; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.

EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.
EGYPTIAN HALL—A GRAND MOVING DIORAMA of CONSTANTINOPLE, including the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus, up to the Black Sea, WILL OPEN, in the New Turkish Room, on MONDAY EVENING NEXT, the second, at Eight o'clock. The Diorama was Painted by Mr. ALLOM, from Sketches made by him on the spot; assisted by Mr. DEVIGNEY and Mr. BARNARD. The Explanatory Lecture has been written by Mr. ALBERT SMITH and Mr. SHIRLEY BROSSE, who are personally acquainted with Constantinople, and will be delivered by Mr. CHARLES KENNEY. The concluding talk, representing a fire at Constantinople, as seen from the Golden Horn, has been painted by Mr. WILLIAM BEVERLY. Full Programmes and particulars may now be had at the Hall, and Reserved Seats taken. It is among the glacières of Switzerland, and Mr. Delaite's Program of the Crystal Palace, at Sydenham, IS NOW OPEN.—Admission, 6d.—Photographic Institution, 108, New Bond Street.

WINTER EXHIBITION of PHOTOGRAPHY.—An entirely New Collection of Photographic Pictures, including Mr. Robertson's Views of Constantinople, Mr. Martens's magnificent Scenery among the Glacières of Switzerland, and Mr. Delaite's Program of the Crystal Palace, at Sydenham, IS NOW OPEN.—Admission, 6d.—Photographic Institution, 108, New Bond Street.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.—THE EXHIBITION of PHOTOGRAPHS and DAGUERRETYPEs IS NOW OPEN, at the Gallery of the Society of British Artists, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, in the Morning, from 10 A.M. to half-past 4 P.M.; and in the Evening, from 7 to 10 P.M.—Admission, One Shilling; Catalogue, Sixpence.

THE ARCTIC REGIONS.—Owing to the Universal Admiration accorded to CAPTAIN INGLEFIELD'S celebrated PICTURES, they will remain ON VIEW for a short period at Messrs. Dickson's GALLERY, 114, New Bond Street.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—PATRON—H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT.—MAGNIFICENT PHOTOGRAPHIC PICTURES, prepared expressly for this Institution, by M. Ferrerie of Paris, exhibited on a surface of about 1,000 square feet, with an ENTIRELY NEW SERIES of DISSOLVING VIEWS, daily at a Quarter-past Four, and in the Evening at a Quarter-past Nine.—LECTURE by Dr. BACHOFEN, on WILKINSON'S NEW PATENT UNIVERSAL ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.—LECTURE by J. H. PEPPER, Esq., on SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION, with Brilliant Experiments.—Open Mornings and Evenings. Admission, 1s.; Schools, and Children under Ten years of age, Half-price.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Jan. 12.—The Lord Chief Baron, V.P. in the chair.—Commander Kay was admitted into the Society.—The following paper was read:—"On some New and Simple Methods of detecting Manganese in Natural and Artificial Compounds, and of obtaining its Combinations for Economical and other Uses," by Mr. Edmund Davy.

ASTRONOMICAL.—Dec. 9.—G. B. Airy, Esq., President, in the chair.—Lieut. E. D. Ashe, R.N., was balloted for and elected.—The following papers were read:—"Observations of Comet III, 1853," by Commander Bradshaw.—"Observations of Euterpe," by Mr. Carrington.—"Remarks respecting a Phenomenon observed during the Ap- parition of Comet III, 1853," by M. C. Rümker.—"Extracts of a letter from Prof. Piaggi Smyth, relative to cometary physics and to the rating of chronometers by lunars.—Remarks, by Mr. Carrington, on presenting to the Society nine Circumpolar charts.—"On a new Mode of mounting a Telescope equatorially," by Mr. Joseph Hopkins.—"Description of a Miniature Observatory erected by Messrs. Ellis & Son, of Exeter."—Remarks on the Zodiacal Light, by T. W. Burr, Esq.—At the close of the meeting, the President stated that operations had commenced for determining the difference of longitude of Brussels and Greenwich, by means of galvanic signals, with the view of forming an electric communication between Greenwich and the principal Observatories of the Continent. With respect to the velocity of the electric current, the President remarked that, in the present instance, there was reason for suspecting it to be affected by the subterranean and submarine passage of a portion of the wire. It appeared that

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ROYAL Sir John D. J. Her training t Nations a had been from Mr. reasonable that his ome of th in fac-sim British M little undi on than earlier to observes usage i times in he propo with the documenta troduction the chief

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the time occupied by the electric current in passing from Greenwich to Brussels amounted to $\frac{1}{10}$ of a second,—whereas the time occupied by the current in passing from Greenwich to Edinburgh, which was almost double the distance, amounted only to $\frac{1}{4}$ of a second. The President acknowledged the obliging conduct of the authorities of the European and Submarine Telegraph Company, who had cordially co-operated in promoting the success of this important undertaking.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—Jan. 11.—Sir John Dorant, V.P., in the chair.—The Rev. D. J. Heath read a paper, 'On a Document illustrating the Relationship between the Palestine Nations and Egypt.'—Mr. Heath stated that he had been induced to study this subject mainly from Mr. Poole's having worked out an apparently reasonable system of Egyptian chronology, and that his object was to call attention to the contents of some of the Hieratic Papyri, which were published in fac-simile ten years ago by the Trustees of the British Museum. At the time this document was little understood, and little more had been made out than the names of two kings, one of whom is earlier than the twelfth dynasty. Mr. Heath observes that besides these two kings a third personage is recognizable, who is mentioned nine times in fourteen lines, as ruling a district which he proposes to term the "Royal Land," though with the title of chief and not that of king. The document itself consists of three parts:—1, an introduction;—2, a series of communications between the chief of the "Royal Land" and the King Appee;—3, a song of triumph, which, however, for some reason is abruptly terminated after the first five words. Baal, Amun, the Aotu, a nation or people, the land of Kam, and the Kings Appee or Skeneura are mentioned in the papyrus. After a conjectural translation of the whole, Mr. Heath observes that it contains many points of interest, viz., the existence of a religious difference in Egypt, the worship of a deity (Baal) there, who is often mentioned in Scripture, and a contest between a king and a local chief, possibly in Egypt, the one a worshipper of Baal and the other of Amun. Mr. Heath then pointed out that the Aotu are frequently mentioned in the Book of the Dead, while it is not impossible from one passage that they may be recognized as a race living about Pelusium. The Aotu are found constantly in connexion with the "Royal Land" in other parts of this papyrus; and in one passage the "Royal Land" is placed together with a description of Memphis itself, while many gods and goddesses occur, clearly of the Memphite as opposed to the Theban worship. From other passages the relationship of the Khita or Shittim to the land of Lower Egypt may be readily deduced, as especially in the Almanac preserved in the fourth Salier Papyrus; the general conclusion being, that the great Khita race had religious rites in common with those who wrote the above-mentioned papyrus. The communication between the two rulers, Mr. Heath shows to have been, the sending of a herald from King Appee to the chief of the "Royal Land;" the result being that the latter gave his fealty to the king. In conclusion, Mr. Heath remarks on the importance of pursuing the study of these documents, and of procuring in the first place accurate translations as possible of their contents; adding, that he is already in hopes of having found a notice of yet more important events in one of Signor D'Athanas's Papyri, viz., mention of the Jews themselves, of Moses and Jannes who withstood him, of a parley in a brick-field, and of a request for leave to celebrate their tribe rites, together with a great number of many people by the waters, a march to Migdol, and a lamentation over the failure of the king's expedition.

PHILOLOGICAL.—Jan. 13.—Prof. Key in the chair.—The first paper was read by Prof. Malden, 'On some Greek Lyric Metres.' In a paper read before the Society last year, the Professor showed that the Greek hexameter-verse was not originally conceived as one verse, to be measured from beginning to end by six feet, but that it was composed of two parts,—the first part consisting of two feet, and a dactyl catalectic upon the weak syllable, (or divided

by the feminine cæsura); and the second part made in like manner, but with a short syllable prefixed to the rhythmical movement (*in anacrusi*, as Hermann terms it). And further, that we were thus enabled to understand how the elegiac poets came to alternate with the hexameter the peculiar elegiac-verse, composed likewise of two parts, each part consisting of two feet and an imperfect foot, but the imperfect foot catalectic on the strong syllable. In the present paper, the Professor considered various forms of *lyrical* metre, those which he conceived could be set to music in common time,—the Dorian rhythm, the Logædic, the Sapphic verse, the Alcaic, Choriambic, Pherecratean, Glyconean, Asclepiad, &c.,—and showed that these were not independent and arbitrary inventions, but that the same principle of rhythm pervaded them all, and that they might be regarded historically as being merely modifications of the elements of the ancient national verse, the Dactylic Hexameter, assuming that this was composed as above stated.—The second paper was read by the Rev. J. W. Blakesley, late Fellow and Tutor of Trinity College, Cambridge, and was entitled 'An Attempt at an Explanation of some Difficulties in the currently-received Account of the Battle of Marathon.' It explained the reasons for the absence of the Persian cavalry at the battle, the position and tactics of the contending forces, brought out the wise delay of Miltiades, his consummate skill in seizing the only conditions under which victory could be hoped for, and showed that his genius was more truly the cause of the glorious result, than the popular notion than one Athenian was a match for ten, twenty, or even sixty Persians.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Jan. 17.—J. Simpson, Esq., President, in the chair.—The discussion was renewed on Mr. Harrison's paper 'On the Drainage of the District South of the Thames.'—Specimens were exhibited of Mr. Austin's perforated bricks and blocks, with dove-tailed joints, for straight work and for circular or oval culverts; their merit was stated to consist in imparting great strength and solidity to the work, with the parallel joints, using less mortar or cement, and enabling great speed to be employed in laying the blocks. The larger perforations were stated to be intended for ventilation, for channels for warmed air, or for passing holding-down bolts, where the bricks were used instead of stone, for masses to resist impact or strain.—A simple and effective trough, with a cover, for containing the underground wires of the electric telegraph, was also on the table, and in the ante-room there were several ingenious sewer-grate traps, and other accessories for sewerage works, the invention of Mr. Austin and of Mr. Jennings.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Jan. 18.—Mr. T. Winkworth in the chair.—The paper read was 'On Sewing Machines,' by Mr. C. T. Judkins. The author stated that the first attempt at stitching by machinery was made by Mr. Ellis Howe, of Boston, in the United States. He conceived the principle of a stitch made by the use of two threads, worked by means of one needle and a shuttle; but after the expenditure of a great deal of money, it proved an utter failure for want of practical mechanical means for working the needle and shuttle. This was in the early part of the year 1846. From that time until 1851 numerous attempts were made to remedy the deficiency. Collecting specimens of these inventions, the author proceeded to examine, in what respect they failed to fulfil the necessary conditions, and detecting their deficiency, at length contrived to produce a practicable working machine, and offered it to the public. The machine was, however, alleged to be an infringement upon the invention of Mr. Howe, inasmuch as his machine consisted in the application of a shuttle in combination with a needle for the purpose of sewing and stitching. Thus the law which was passed to protect for a time the monopoly of an inventor, became in this instance a clog to improvement. It rejected a desideratum to conserve a nullity. Baffled in this instance, he determined on carrying out a plan for stitching

upon quite a different principle, doing away with the shuttle entirely, and forming altogether a different stitch. The machine is composed of a flat iron surface, about twelve inches square, resting on four legs of substantial make and form. From one side of this surface an arm rises erect to the height of about ten inches, and then passes over to the opposite side. From the extremity of the arm descends a movable bar, to the bottom of which is fixed a needle, the eye being about half an inch from the point, and on the top of the arm is fixed a reel or bobbin filled with silk or other thread. Fixed to a main shaft is a wheel turned by a handle, which also can be worked by a treadle, or steam-engine, that gives motion to a lever within the arm, and which moves the vertical needle up and down. Beneath the visible surface, or base, is a second reel of thread supplying another needle, which instead of being straight is circular and works horizontally, and consequently at right angles to its stitching companion, which descends from the arm. Supposing the thread to be passed through the eye of each needle, and the apparatus set to work, the process is thus performed:—The vertical needle descends and passes through the two pieces of cloth to be united, carrying with it the thread to perhaps half an inch below the under side of the cloth; as the needle rises the thread is left behind in the form of a noose, or loop, through which the horizontal needle passes; the horizontal needle instantly reversing its motion, leaves a loop into which the vertical needle descends. Both needles thus progress, making a series of stitches, each stitch being quite fast, even should its neighbour be severed. More than five hundred stitches can be made in this manner in one minute. The closeness and tightness of the threads are regulated by a screw, and as each stitch is of equal tension, a great advantage is secured in the regular appearance of the work. The length of the stitch, by turning a small nut, can be increased or diminished to any degree of fineness, and perfect uniformity secured. The cloth to be worked on is adjusted by an attendant, who with one hand turns the wheel, and with the other guides the cloth forward after each stitch. Sometimes two hands are employed, a girl or boy giving rotatory motion to the wheel, while the other attendant regulates the movement of the cloth. The operative by his actions can cause the sewing to be straight, angular, or circular.

SYRO-EGYPTIAN.—Jan. 10.—T. Wright, Esq., in the chair.—'A Biographical Sketch of the late Dr. G. F. Grotefend, of Hanover,' was read by Dr. W. Camps.—'Remarks on certain Notices of Early Egyptian Chemistry,' lately published by Dr. W. Camps. The writer commenced by referring to some discussion on the subject of Early Egyptian Chemistry between Mr. Herapath of Bristol and Mr. D. Smith of London. It was on the wrappings or envelopes of a mummy unrolled at Bristol that Mr. Herapath had experimented and arrived at his conclusions. Dr. Camps then proceeded to detail the observations made on this subject, concluding his communications to the Society by remarking that the point at issue appeared to be involved in the following question. Were the Ancient Egyptians acquainted with nitric acid and its salts of silver, or were they not? He thought that the evidence in favour of the affirmative, namely, that they were acquainted with this acid, or its salts of silver, appeared irresistible from the experiments conducted by Mr. T. Herapath; and if this were admitted, one must then allow the Egyptians to have had a more intimate acquaintance with chemistry and chemical preparations than is generally assigned even to these clever, intelligent and ancient people.—Mr. Sharpe exhibited a drawing of a sculptured slab from Khursabad, published by M. Botta and Mr. Bonomi. It represents a fleet of Phœnician timber ships carrying planks of wood from a city on the coast. The timber is brought down to the coast from a hill. The Assyrian winged bull accompanies the ships, and the fish-god of the Philistines is on one side. Mr. Sharpe's conjecture was that these were ships of Tarsus in the service of Sennacherib, carrying

the timber of Mount Lebanon from the city of Tyre to be used by the Assyrian army at the siege of Pelusium, where Sennacherib's army was destroyed. The second book of Kings does not mention the siege of Pelusium as the spot where that celebrated event took place; that information is added by Herodotus. Again, neither the book of Kings nor Herodotus tells us that a fleet was there in attendance on Sennacherib's army; but the circumstances of the case make it probable, and in the Forty-eighth Psalm, where thanks are returned for the city of Jerusalem not being besieged by the Assyrians, we are also told that the Lord scattered the ships of Tarsus by an east wind. The three writings, namely, the second book of Kings, ch. viii. and ch. xix., Herodotus, and Psalm forty-eight, make it probable that Sennacherib had at that time a fleet of Phœnician vessels on the Mediterranean Sea, and this sculpture seems to be the representation of that fleet.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon.** British Architects, 8.
— Entomological, 8.—Anniversary.
— Geographical, 8.—Further Accounts from the Mission to Lake Chad.—Reports in connexion with the North Australian Expedition.
Tues. British Meteorological, 7.—On a Certain Law in the Motion of Winds, by Mr. Bulford.—On the Meteorology of the past Quarter and beginning of this Year, by Mr. Glaisher.
— Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—On Inclined Planes for Canals, by Mr. Leslie.
— Royal Institution, 8.—On Heat, by Prof. Tyndall.
Wed. Royal Society of Literature, 4.
— Society of Arts, 8.—On Laws relating to Property in Designs and Inventions; and the Effect of such Laws on the Arts and Manufactures, by Mr. Webster.
— British Archaeological, 8.
Thurs. Numismatic, 7.
— Royal Academy, 8.—On Architecture, by Prof. Cockerell.
— Antiquaries, 8.
— Royal, 8.
— Zoological, 9.
— Royal Institution, 3.—On Animal Physiology, by Prof. Jones.
Fri. Philological, 8.
— Royal Institution, 8.—On the Vibration and Tones produced by the Contact of Bodies having different Temperatures, by Prof. Tyndall.
Sat. Royal Institution, 3.—On the Chemistry of the Non-Metallic Elements, by Prof. Miller.

FINE ARTS

THE POMPEIAN COURT AT THE SYDENHAM PALACE.

EVERY dweller in our great city will remember with delight those appointments so often made and so pleasantly kept in the fairy courts of the great edifice in Hyde Park a year or two ago,—when the trying-place, as fancy or caprice suggested, was at the Crystal Fountain, under the tent of the Arab, in the Court of Granada, by the Polar shores or at the source of the Ganges. Memories, almost magical in their variety and novelty, cling about those places, so often visited and revisited; and to the end of life, and far beyond the days of living men, these memories will hang about the world as strange and beautiful traditions,—the fanciful and poetic draperies of solid fact and prosaic purpose. Something like the old conditions may revive at Sydenham. Courts are there rising rapidly from the earth,—less significant, perhaps, in their moral meanings, but in form, embellishment, and contents far more rich and beautiful than the old. It may be well that, as reporters to our readers on the state of Art,—whether it be as to revival, novelty, or mere experiment,—we should render of these doings or misdoings some account.

The Pompeian Court is to most people a novelty. Stepping into it, the visitor steps, as it were, bodily into the first century of the Christian era. We are at once with Tacitus and the two Plinys. The water is idly phasing in the marble basin,—the master of the house appears to have retired for his mid-day sleep, as the dweller on the Bay of Naples does at the present day,—the slaves are probably cooking in the further corner,—and the rich, indolent, southern life is around us on every side. The illusion is perfect. Fancy can almost hear the voice of the great waters heaving through the summer silence,—and in the bright and golden splendour of the interior decoration the very spirit of Imperial Rome looks down in mingled luxury and passion from the walls.

What grace—what luxury—what artistic beauty visible everywhere! Yet Pompeii at its best was only the Worthing or the Dawlish of Italy.

Need we remind our readers that about seventy-nine years after the birth of Christ,—in the reign

of the tenth Roman Emperor, Titus, the destroyer of Jerusalem,—Pompeii and Herculaneum, two small towns on the sea-shore near the foot of Vesuvius, and distant about 130 miles from Rome, were destroyed by an eruption? Herculaneum, the nearest to Vesuvius, was completely covered with the boiling lava; but Pompeii, the more distant, being only buried by the dust and stones, was, about a hundred years ago, explored, and the excavations have since been constantly pursued. Most valuable antiquities are discovered in the former place, as might be expected from the suddenness of its destruction.

As only about sixty bodies have been found in Pompeii, it is supposed that nearly all its 5,000 or 6,000 inhabitants had time to escape with their chief valuables; but fear, duty, or avarice detained some few until it was too late to escape. The sentinel has been found at the gate,—the lady at her toilette,—the miser clutching his bag,—the mother with her child,—and the prisoner in his chains.

The houses at Pompeii were small, the little city lying not far distant from those places of fashionable resort, Baie and Cumæ, the Bath and Cheltenham of the Roman nobles. The house here reproduced is as large as any yet found in the exhumed city, and is formed of the best portions of several houses. In comparison with the larger dwellings of the period which it represents, it is a Clapham cottage by the side of Buckingham Palace. The kitchen, here no larger than a cupboard, was sometimes 400 feet long in Roman houses; the entire space occupied is that of a villa in St. John's Wood,—while Nero's Golden Palace had triple galleries, each a mile in length. The rich marbles of Egypt and Numidia, the spoils of Grecian sculpture, and the paintings of Athens and Corinth were reserved for the mansions of the Seven Hills, for Capua, or for Verona.

In general aspect and arrangement, the Pompeian house will remind the Eastern traveller of the houses of Cairo or Damascus. Plain and almost rude without, with few windows and those opening into a narrow street, narrowed that it may be overshadowed, it gives no promise of the splendour within. Opening the door and passing the porter's little cell, you enter a small quadrangle, to be paved with mosaic, with a fountain (and hereafter a statue) in the middle, open to the sky and surrounded by the sleeping-rooms, recesses, and various apartments; and passing on through an open room or its side passages, you enter the inner quadrangle, with its garden, also open to the sun and its roof supported by sixteen pillars, and round which are disposed the dining-rooms, baths, and kitchen;—and this, rejecting technicalities, is the whole of the ground plan.

It will at once be seen that this house, although unrivalled in interest, can only be taken as one species of Roman habitation, and that not of the richest. In some patrician's houses there were kept 400 slaves, the most trivial daily duty, as in Hindostan, becoming a department in itself. Even in Pompeii many of the houses appear to have had at least one story and terraces above the flat roof of the cloisters below; and Juvenal speaks of houses at Rome of ten stories, originating, as in the old town of Edinburgh, from the want of space within the walls, which it was difficult, if not impossible to enlarge.

The walls and ceilings are exquisitely painted, chiefly, as was natural in a place on the shores of the sea, with subjects drawn from the ocean or the mountain. We have no flood of life streaming along the walls, as in a Grecian frieze; no "leaf-fringed legend," as on an Etruscan vase; but, in their stead, flying Cupids, dolphins, sea-bulls, Tritons and sea-Centaurs, with paws branching into seaweed. In the centre panel of a recess to the right of the entrance there is a small painting of *Perseus rescuing Andromeda*, a favourite subject at Pompeii. The monster, "a most delicate monster," evidently a small species of shark, lies at the maiden's feet. The background is well chosen, and with much successfully attempted atmosphere. In one compartment we see a slave bringing a seated bather a flesh-scraper. The style of deco-

ration is light and summary, almost flimsy,—rich blues, deep reds, and black predominate as the grounds. In another room we see *Cupid pointing* to a maiden (perhaps Dido), her lover's gallery lying in the distance. Round this cornice, alive with azure birds and geese and peacocks, a train of Cupids hurry along with an untied garland that streams behind. Here are a group of winged Loves, carrying between them a wine-jar shaped like a strawberry pottle,—and here is a musical party of the brood of *Venus*, some seated on couches and others applauding a girl who dances to the sound of a flute, keeping time with castanets. Here is the old man drawing a Cupid from a cage full of his rainbow-winged kinsmen, half butterflies, half seraphs;—and here is *Venus driving a biga* or small car.

The roof above the fountain is supported by Fames or winged angelic figures,—the four above the *tablinum*, or state room, leading to the inner court, being gilt. In this open hall in Roman houses were preserved the statues of deceased ancestors, archives, &c. It served as a sort of state reception-room. In many houses the whole of the fountain court was surrounded by statues. Over this opening coloured awnings were frequently drawn, and in small houses vines were sometimes trained, for air and shade are necessities of life in a southern climate. Rich hangings supplied the place of doors, except to the chief entrance and the bed-chambers. In this particular truth has been necessarily laid aside for convenience, for two doorways have been introduced in addition to the two which should really exist, and doors will not be put to the bed-chambers where they would only hide the decorations.

The rooms are chiefly lit from the two courts, but the sleeping apartments have two windows of the modern size,—two others are lit from the street (probably also for the sake of the public eye),—and two others are lit by alcove openings in the ceiling.

Against the wall of the outer court stands, in a niche, like that of an Italian Madonna, the altar of the guardian *Lares*,—deities probably of Etruscan origin.—To these incense was burnt and offerings made on certain days,—and indeed, in the later ages of a universal scepticism, and with the exception of the worship of Isis, the Puseyism or fashionable religion of the day, these rites constituted almost all the ritual of the rich. In the kitchen we find the same twin deities represented by the figures of two snakes approaching an altar. Emblematical paintings of fruit and silver-gilt drinking cups indicate the dining-room.

In such a villa as is here represented, clad in festive robes of purple and crowned with flowers, Cicero may have sat and boasted of Catiline's flight from the senate house,—or the perfumed Cæsar, with his wounds still fresh from the last campaign, may have eulogized the admirable oysters or sneered at the stupid slaves of Britain. Here may have feasted the men who conquered the world only to live at peace on snails, thrushes, flamingoes' tongues, the brains of nightingales, and the udders of sows. In such places and with such surroundings, feasted those gorgeous diners who, as we are told, had at one dinner alone 2,000 different dishes of fish and 7,000 fowls, and who spent hundreds of pounds on a single made dish. Here voluptuaries may have melted emeralds in vinegar or frothed the rich wine of Lesbos with Arabian ointments. Into such luxurious nooks and corners of the Roman world, men weary of the Imperial capital, with its jostling crowds of vagabond Jews, noisy gladiators, Egyptian jugglers, Spanish dancing-girls, Syrian fortune-tellers, Moorish slaves, and Illyrian litter-bearers, may have retreated for a season of repose: seated or reclining in such luxurious bowers, some of the masters of mankind may have looked up dreamily at the clear blue sky, smiling as the sea-breeze wafted the fragrance of the violets from the inner garden, which crept round them as if *Venus* herself was passing near unseen, or listened in silence to the unceasing splash of the fountain or the song of the female slaves at the loom.

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such houses as these would be destroyed by an eruption. They were, in fact, open bowls, into which the lava could be poured by old Vulcan like a stream of wine.

PAINTING THE PARTHENON.

I have made another visit to Sydenham to ascertain whether my theorized ideas of right should become translated by penitence into an approval of practical wrong. I found my inclination to merriment—even in so reverent a place—too strong to admit of any fresh speculation in taste on a matter so utterly contradictory of the purest laws of the purest Art, and so fatal to the calm and dignified unfolding of the severe forms of the least meretricious of all the arts. This merriment of mine was not an illustration of a slight aberration from right—divergence by a short by-way from a legitimate career—feeble discrepancy in the quality of a tint,—but a sympathetic objection and theoretic condemnation of all attempts "to paint the lily and gild refined gold." No artist should require such an experiment, as is there conducted, to satisfy his judgment. It is a case in which a self-evident proposition is involved; an artist should be conscious beforehand that the pure forms of Greek Sculpture are in themselves such perfect renderings of abstract idea that any attempt to mingle them with dissonant Art is to force a union fatal to both.

I have already alluded to one of the characteristics of that portion of the plastic art termed basso-relievo, namely the forms by implication,—and the delicacy of the varieties of this implication in the production of plastic effect. The chiaroscuro of painting, or the quantity of light and dark in a picture, being untranslatable into sculpture, we must, in all its conventions, look, not for analogies which cannot exist in different arts, but for the expression of analogical necessities peculiar to each. Now beyond the common bond of light and shade incidental to solid forms, whether represented illusorily by the deception of painting, or actually, in one condition of formal existence by the substantiality of modelling, there is the charm of a hinted imitation of form in different degrees of tenuity from the slight reduction of the solid to the faintest tracery of contour on the flat ground. These, the peculiar properties of plastic representation in its convention of hinted forms, are perilled by any attempt to withdraw the eye from the pure expression of form to the conflicting tones and degradation of surface consequent upon polychromatic decoration.

You will allow me once for all to disclaim any desire to exclude the agreeable employment of colour from the arts of ornamentation. I am deeply impressed with the adjunctive value of colour, and I thrill with delight at the dainty phantasies of the delicious Pompeian abode, where the forms flow entirely from the playful pencil, or where enriching gold meanders through architecturally-disposed sculptures of secondary importance.

Even in the exercise of the decorative fancy I cannot permit my mind to forfeit its allegiance to the True. I love colour; but I prefer that colour in architecture shall be the result of truth; and I conceive that rich marbles and bronze and gold are nobler things than substitutions in colour. In the painting of a scene on a wall we have a legitimate imitation either of objective life or ideal conceptions; but in the painting of a pediment we have the employment of one art in a manner unfavourable to it on the surface of another impaired by its introduction.

Again, I say it is not a question of error in degree, but a vital enormity admitting of no palliation, and endangering the value of the abstract quality of Sculpture. Carry your polychromatic zeal to its highest pitch—bid the tone of Titian glow on the marble, melt the subtle harmonies of Allegri through the banded forms, fling the delicious "hair tints" of Landseer over the courser's hides,—do aught that Genius may enable you to do,—waste a world's treasures in your conjuration of unlawful effects, and with all your compounded appliances, despite your skill in the dis-

tribution of alien riches, you will but enjoy the melancholy satisfaction of having hidden the purity of Truth under meretricious splendours, and of having converted two very good arts into an exceedingly bad one. Yours, &c., L.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MUSICAL WINTER EVENINGS, 1884.—Five Concerts will be given in Willis's Rooms, THURSDAYS, February 20, March 9, 23, 30, and April 6.—Subscriptions, 12 10s. Parties of five and six can have a Sofa reserved for the Series.—Single Tickets, 10s. 6d.—For a list of Patrons and other particulars, vide Prospectus at Cramer & Co., Regent Street; Chappell & Co., New Bond Street, and Olivieri, Old Bond Street.

THE MUSICAL UNION RECORD of 1883 is published and has been sent to Members by Post, Parcel Delivery and Messengers. Any omission will be rectified on applying to J. ELLA, Director.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY. Exeter Hall.—Conductor, Mr. Costa.—Mendelssohn's 'ELIJAH' will be repeated on THURSDAY, the 14th of February.—Vocalists at present engaged: Miss Louisa Fyfe and Mr. Sims Reeves. Tickets, 3s., 2s., and 10s. 6d.; or Subscriptions, One, Two, or Three Guineas per annum, may be had by immediate application at the Society's Office, No. 6, in Exeter Hall. The next Subscription Concert will be on FRIDAY, the 17th of February.

Mr. AGUILAR respectfully announces that his SECOND SOIRÉE OF CLASSICAL and MODERN PIANOFORTE MUSIC will take place at his Residence, No. 68, Upper Norton Street, Portland Road, on SATURDAY, 23rd of January.—Programme: Sonata, Piano and Violin, Mozart—Prelude and Fugue in B minor, and Presto Scherzando, Mendelssohn—Song—Sonata Appassionata, Beethoven—Solo, Violin—Génévieve and Rond. Piavevole, W. S. Bennett—Song—Caprice, Op. 12, Aguilar—Violin, Herr Jansz; Vocalist: Miss Mesent.—Triple Tickets, One Guinea; Single Tickets, Half-a-Guinea; to be had of Mr. Aguilar, and at all the Principal Music Publishers.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—Haydn's 'CREATION' will be repeated NEXT WEDNESDAY, January 25th, under the Direction of Mr. John Hulsh. Principal Vocalists: Miss Birch, Mr. T. E. Williams, and Mr. Frank Bodd. Tickets, One Shilling; Gallery, Half-a-Crown; Stalls, Five Shillings. Doors open a Quarter before Seven; commence at Half-past Seven o'clock.

THE LONDON ORCHESTRA.—The *London Orchestra*, which, with Mr. F. Mori as its conductor, appears to aspire to a substantive and separate existence,—gave its first concert at the Hanover Square Rooms on Thursday evening. The performance of Mendelssohn's Symphony in a minor exhibited its power as sufficient, its precision as meritorious, and its spirit as great. Delicacy, perhaps, will come in time. A Pianoforte Trio by M. Praeger, a Pianoforte Concerto by Miss Goddard, and a violin solo by M. Sainton, varied the programme pleasantly. Among the vocalists, Madame Amedei claims high admiration, because of her mellow, powerful and even mezzo-soprano voice. Any voice superior in quality to it, betwixt F and R, we do not recollect;—since that octave has all Mdle. Albani's luscious sweetness without her tremulousness, and is twice as powerful as hers. But, whereas Nature has been so bountiful, as an artist Madame Amedei displays more animation than science or finish. Her glorious voice, however, does not seem hard to manage; and with health, strength and study she ought, at no distant period, to become as attractive a concert-singer as was ever heard in the Hanover Square Rooms.—A word on another subject. We regret to see that the new lease of these premises, granted by Messrs. Cocks, neither implies alteration, decoration, nor even cleansing. More ghastly and faded a place of entertainment could hardly look, than does this locality of our choicest concerts.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—We should soon be hearing some authentic tidings of the coming Opera-season.—The foreign journals announce that *Her Majesty's Theatre* will re-open this year. There has been a report current that Signor Costa is about to leave the *Royal Italian Opera*. Neither rumour, we apprehend, is based on fact.—More certain is it, we fancy, that neither Madame Grisi nor Madame Viardot can sing early in the season,—and that shadows do doubt rest on the repertory for both theatres. These, perhaps, the coming out of M. Meyerbeer's 'Étoile du Nord' may brighten.—Meanwhile,—that we may not be numbered among the croakers, who have no remedy to propose—let us once again state our conviction that, among Gluck's five grand operas, either 'Armide' or 'Orfeo,' or 'Alceste,' if prepared with due care and splendour, would make a sensation at the *Royal Italian Opera* as great as that excited by the first worthy

performance of 'Don Giovanni' in the Haymarket.

We hear that, contemporaneously with Mr. G. V. Brooke's performances at Drury Lane, Miss Lowe, Mr. Henri Drayton and Mr. Eliot Galer will resume the operatic entertainments commenced by them at the *St. James's Theatre* early in the winter,—and that a new *opéra* is in preparation for them by Mr. Duggan; whether to include Miss Featherstone is not mentioned.

One of the first of the foreign artists who have arrived here for the musical season is Madame Nathan Treillet.—It is said that Mdle. Jenny Ney, who singing at Dresden a correspondent from Leipzig lately mentioned in favourable terms, will come to London this spring.

"Lumley v. Gye" came to a hearing again in the Court of Queen's Bench on the 14th,—when Lord Campbell sanctioned the issuing of another commission to examine witnesses in Prussia.

Any foreign reader, who may be surprised at the paucity of reported musical entertainments during these current weeks, are hereby advised that the silence of the press does not imply the starvation of the public. On the contrary, in certain divisions of the art, our abundance has become so habitual that there is no longer need to call the home reader's attention to the fact. In no other European capital, we apprehend, has there been within the same short period so many fine Christmas performances of the 'Messiah' as in London. The present, again, might be called the 'Elijah' weeks, since three Societies are almost simultaneously performing Mendelssohn's master-work in Exeter Hall,—and we suppose that Mr. Hullab's Upper School will not be far behind with its shilling version of the Oratorio.—At the *Harmonic Union* Miss Stabbach will undertake the soprano part, and Signor Beletti that of *Elijah*, which has never yet been sung "to the top of its bent,"—that is, poetically and prophetically as well as powerfully.—This may be the place to mention that Mr. Herbert, who will be remembered as having for a while appeared in opera during one of Mr. Bunn's opera-managements, has returned to England from a sojourn in Italy, with the purpose, we believe, of singing in oratorios and concerts.

The South German journals announce that M. Benedict's 'Crusaders,' which opera has been represented at Munich since the New Year came in, has been entirely successful. The artists were, Herren Kindermann, Hörterger, Pellegrini, Brandes, and Medames Hefner and Diez.

The attention of all persons interested may be called to the 'Letters to Dramatic Composers,' which have been contributed by M. Fétis to the *Gazette Musicale*. In these the tendencies of modern German operatic composition are judiciously exposed and the boundary line betwixt reality and conventionalism which musical enterprise must respect is wisely traced. In his last letter, however, M. Fétis, after propounding favourite notions regarding discoveries which may still be worked out by melodists, praises some inventions of his own, in which the use of 'omniscient harmony' is indicated, with a complacency which,—like old Master Mace's "pedal harpeison," recommended in the sale-catalogue of that worthy's effects,—is "exceeding pleasant."

Report says that Mr. Mitchell has resigned the lease of the *St. James's Theatre*. Should this be true, London loses a manager so adroit, liberal and gentlemanly in catering for and keeping faith with his public, that the event must not pass without our expressing more than ordinary regret.

On Thursday week Sir E. B. Lytton's comedy of 'Money' was performed at Windsor Castle before Her Majesty,—Mr. C. Kean performing *Evelyn*, Mr. Wigan *Capt. Dudley Smooth*, Mr. Webster *Graves*, and Mr. Buckstone *Stout*. Four managers of as many theatres thus figured in the play,—a coincidence sufficiently singular to merit brief record.—On Thursday this week the Windsor performances began with 'The Honeymoon,' and closed with 'The Camp at Chobham.'

Miss Cushman appears at the Haymarket on Monday next,—and Mr. Brooke at Drury Lane

on Monday week.—A new two-act comedy is in preparation at the Haymarket, and a new drama is in rehearsal at the Olympic Theatre.

This evening—Saturday—the "Jerrold Dramatic Club" will give a series of performances at the St. James's Theatre, in aid of the Copper-plate Printers' Benevolent Fund. The amusements of the evening comprise Mr. Jerrold's two-act comedy 'The Schoolfellows,' a musical *mélange*, and 'The Spectre Bridegroom.'

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—BASIL PICKERING, son of Mr. WILLIAM PICKERING, Bookseller and Publisher, late of 177, Piccadilly, in soliciting from the Customers and Friends of his Father a continuance of the favours which they honoured him, begs to inform them that he is now in the employment of Mr. JAMES TOOTVEY, 42, PICCADILLY, with whom arrangements have been made to execute all such orders as he may obtain, and in which the Family will have a direct interest and advantage. It is, therefore, respectfully requested that all future communications be made to Mr. TOOTVEY, 42, Piccadilly.

MISCELLANEA

Literature and Education at Athens.—The annexed information on the present state of literature and education in the resuscitated kingdom of Greece is condensed from *La Pandore*, a periodical published at Athens. The whole number of publications in Greece, the Ionian Islands and Turkey, during 1851, was 188; during 1852, 164. The diminution in 1852 is accounted for, by the appearance in 1851 of numerous political journals, which had only an ephemeral existence, and by the want of complete returns from Turkey. Of the 164 publications of 1852, 120 appeared in the kingdom of Greece, 29 in the Ionian Isles, and 7 in Turkey. More specifically, 107 appeared at Athens, 8 at Smyra, 3 at Patras, 1 at Nauplia, 1 at Tripolitza, 14 at Corfu, 8 at Cephalonia, 7 at Zante, 2 at Constantinople, 4 at Smyrna, and 1 at Bucharest. The classification of these works exhibits 36 political journals, 27 works in theology, 27 on philosophy, 17 in poetry, 11 political brochures, and from one to half a dozen works upon a great variety of other topics. Athens now has 19 printing offices, with 40 presses, 8 type-foundries, and 10 lithographic presses. Smyra has 5 printing offices, and one foundry. The particulars are not given in regard to other places. The University of Athens now numbers 39 professors, and 590 students. The latter are divided as follow: Faculty of Philosophy, 66; of Theology, 10; of Law, 106; of Medicine, 278; School of Pharmacy, 37. In addition to the University, there are 7 Gymnasia or colleges, with 43 professors and 1,077 students; 79 secondary schools, with 133 professors and 3,872 students; 4 private institutions, and 3 supported by communities, which have together, 25 professors and 511 students; 1 seminary, with 4 professors and 30 students; 1 normal school, with 7 professors and 60 students; 338 common schools for boys, with 366 professors and 33,864 pupils; 31 common schools for girls, with 40 professors and 4,380 students; 17 private schools for girls, with 25 professors and 1,479 students; a school of the *Société Philopaidentique*, for the advanced instruction of young ladies, with 13 professors and 464 students; the agricultural school, of Tirinthe, with 20 pupils; and finally, a military school, with 20 professors and 64 students. Besides these, Athens has a Polytechnic School, a library of 70,000 volumes, a museum of natural history, an anatomical museum, a museum of pathological anatomy, an observatory, a medical society, a society of natural history, an archaeological society, a society of the fine arts, and a botanic garden. According to the last statistics in regard to the kingdom of Greece, 1853, it appears that its population is 1,002,112; and from the above statements it is seen that there are connected with the various educational institutions from 700 to 750 professors, and not far from 47,000 scholars, 6,250 of whom are females. In addition to the students here enumerated, it is worthy of note that several hundred young Greeks are pursuing their studies in Germany, Italy and elsewhere.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—S. F.—Author of 'Themis'—W. C. R.—H. F. H.—G. O.—Y. S. N.—R. L. P.—received.

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